

# Impetus for landslip restoration of roads

Big news for Nimbin and Lismore residents: construction crews are gearing up to roll out the first stage of Lismore City Council's Landslip Restoration Package, with five priority roads set to receive some much-needed TLC from this month.

Works will kick off at the following locations:

- Stony Chute Road (between Zouch Rd and Stanger Rd), Stony Chute;
- Cawongla Road (between Mulvena Rd and Martin Rd), Larnook;
- Oakey Creek Road (near McLennan Rd), Georgica;
- Terania Creek Road (near Lawler Rd), Terania Creek;
- Wyrallah Road / 1A Emily Street (near Bridge Street), Wyrallah.

Construction will be done by CMC Hull JV, a partnership between CMC Group and JF Hull Holdings, who've been tapped to deliver the works on Council's behalf.

Before the machines roll in, you'll notice some prep work: ground surveys and a bit of vegetation clearing, with crews operating from a site compound on Blue Knob Road.

Work hours are set for 7am to 6pm Monday to Friday, and 8am to 1pm on Saturdays. Council will notify residents of any nearby construction impacts.

Up to 60 damage sites will be repaired under the Landslip Restoration Package between October 2025 and late 2027, thanks to joint funding from the

Commonwealth and NSW Governments under the Disaster Recovery Funding Arrangements.

It's a long road ahead, but one that's finally getting the attention it deserves.

For more info on scheduling, visit: [www.lismore.nsw.gov.au/landsliprestoration](http://www.lismore.nsw.gov.au/landsliprestoration)

**Masters Games**

Last month's Masters Games were an outstanding success, and I am told by organisers that we had record number of participants with more than a quarter coming from over the borders, who played on our world class sporting facilities, socialised and ate in our many pubs and restaurants, and stayed in our motels.

That's three solid days

of thousands of people spending money in our local businesses.

Congratulations not only to the winners but all participants, sport convenors and our businesses and community who made them welcome. Bring on the 14th Masters Games in 2027!

**New citizens**

On this year's annual Citizenship Day, I had the honour of welcoming a record number of 80 new citizens who have chosen our community to call home.

It is one of the best parts of my job to warmly welcome new Australian citizens who are now part of the common bond that unites all Australians and respects diversity.



**From the Mayor's desk**  
by Steve Krieb  
Lismore City Council

Our new citizens came from Bangladesh, Brazil, Canada, China, Colombia, Denmark, France, Germany, Guatemala, India, Iran, Iraq, Kenya, Nepal, New Zealand, Nigeria, Philippines, Sri Lanka, South Africa, United Arab Emirates,

United Kingdom, United States of America, Thailand, Vietnam and Zimbabwe.

**Koala deaths**

To end on a more sombre note, it is heart-breaking to report that since January, more than 30 koalas have been struck on Northern Rivers roads.

As they cross roads more often during spring and summer in search of food, mates, or shelter, koalas are at greater risk every day.

Please slow down. Stay alert. Every koala life matters. If you see a koala on or near the road, call the Friends of the Koala 24 hour hotline on 6622-1233

Share this message and be the reason a koala makes it home safely.

# The Great Koala National Park

by Janelle Saffin  
MP for Lismore

There has been a wonderful response to the Minns Government's announcement of the creation of the Great Koala National Park.

This was an election commitment and something the people of New South Wales wanted us to do.

I was delighted to join Premier Chris Minns, Environment Minister Penny Sharpe and Agriculture Minister Tara Moriarty in Coffs Harbour for the announcement on 7th September.

There is an immediate moratorium on timber harvesting in the region that will help make up the almost 500,000 hectare National Park. I know some people wanted the park to be smaller, but it had to be done at scale to save the koalas.

Without this action, koalas are on track to be extinct in the wild by 2050. The Great Koala National Park will protect more than 12,000 koalas in the region and protect habitat for 100 other threatened species and precious old growth forests.

The Great Koala National Park is a significant cultural landscape for Gumbaynggirr and Dunghutti peoples.

The Aboriginal advisory panel will guide the management of the park and for the first time in NSW, dedicated Aboriginal Rangers will be employed via Aboriginal Controlled Organisations to work on Aboriginal cultural heritage within the park.

I have to thank the Premier because it is a big decision for a Premier of a state to say, "I'm going to do this," but it is a huge legacy issue.

The park will be as important as the 'panda



Premier Chris Minns, Janelle Saffin, Environment Minister Penny Sharpe and Agriculture Minister Tara Moriarty (obscured), at Bongil Bongil National Park on the Mid-North Coast, which will be part of the Great Koala National Park.

parks' in China. People will come to see koalas in the wild, not in a zoo. Our grandchildren will be able to walk among the giant old-growth trees and look up to see koalas in their natural environment.

So many people have come to me about saving koalas over many years. I want to particularly acknowledge the tireless advocacy and hard work of Lorraine Vass and the late Ros Irwin of Friends of the Koala in Lismore. I

know Lorraine is very happy with this news.

I'm very conscious there will be some impacts on some timber workers and the government is working with the union on transition packages to support them.

The park will also create more than 100 National Parks and Wildlife Service jobs.

Getting the process right in creating the park has taken time, and I want to thank everyone who has

raised the issue with me over the years.

Next year the government will introduce the legislation to formally create the park, but the protection of the area started with the announcement on Sunday 7th September.

As I said at the Coffs Harbour announcement, "This is the day we save the koalas." How good is that!

For more information go to: [www.nsw.gov.au/greatkoalanationalpark](http://www.nsw.gov.au/greatkoalanationalpark)

## On the same Page

by Kevin Hogan MP



**Young sports stars**

I would like to recognise two great athletes in our community.

Mikayla and Daniel Frey (pictured, above) recently received the Local Sporting Champion Grant. Mikayla and Daniel both competed in Western Australia at the National Championships for Athletics.

What an accomplishment for them both!

Congratulations on all your fantastic achievements.

**Spring Fair**

The Jiggi Hall recently held the Jiggi School of Arts

Spring Fair, which was a wonderful celebration of our community.

Thank you to the Jiggi Public School P&C, Tower Preschool, and other local groups for your contributions to this fantastic community event.

I would also like to recognise the Jiggi School of Arts Committee for their fundraising, local business and community group stalls, and displays of local art.

Well done to everyone involved for bringing the community together for such a wonderful day.



# Counting carbon in the Great Koala National Park

There is so much to celebrate in the Government's decision to stop logging within 176,000 hectares of public native forests on the mid-North Coast as the first step in creating the Great Koala National Park.

This is a major win for our communities, for wildlife, and the climate. Koala habitat has been bulldozed, fragmented and logged for far too long. To finally put an end to the industrial destruction of these forests is a moment of relief and of hope.

But even as we celebrate, we must also pay attention to the fine print. The future of these forests is still being defined, and the way we count their value is going to shape what kind of protection they really receive.

The NSW Labor Government has said it is

exploring options to monetise the carbon stored in these forests through carbon credit projects. That may sound good on the surface, but we should be asking: what does it really mean to put a price on the carbon in our public forests?

Right now, we are on dangerous ground. Under the federal rules that govern carbon markets, a forest's carbon can only be counted as a "credit" if that carbon isn't already protected by law and if it could have been logged or cleared.

In other words, for a carbon project to be eligible, the forest must be legally at risk. That creates a perverse incentive to delay legal protection until the credits are locked in and sold.

It also raises serious questions about whether native forest projects like this even meet the federal integrity



by Sue Higginson  
NSW Greens MLC

standards. If the Government stops logging and compensates Forestry Corporation using public funds, how can it also claim the carbon was "saved" by the market? Isn't that double counting?

There is another path we could take. Instead of turning the carbon in our forests into tradeable credits for climate polluting industries to buy, we could count it honestly and keep it in the public trust.

Forest carbon is not a commodity, it is a living insurance policy for future generations. It should not be sold off to allow fossil fuel expansion and continuation. It should be accounted for in a way that recognises its true ecological, social and climate value.

This is where ecosystem accounting comes in. The Government is trialling the Australian System of Environmental-Economic Accounting Ecosystem Accounting (SEEA EA) framework. It is a mouthful, but it is also one of the most important reforms in how we understand nature.

Unlike traditional carbon accounting, which reduces forests to tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub>, ecosystem accounting takes a broader view. It recognises that forests do not just store carbon, they also provide

clean air, water regulation, biodiversity, recreation and cultural connection. These are values that cannot be traded, but they can be measured, tracked and invested in.

The NSW Environmental Protection Authority and the Department of Planning and Environment have already begun integrating ecosystem accounting into their policy frameworks.

A pilot study on public land in northeast NSW has shown that ecosystem condition can be meaningfully tracked over time.

This is the kind of approach we need to expand. Rather than turning our forests into offsets for emissions elsewhere, we could adopt a model that treats them as essential infrastructure for a liveable future.

So why is the Government still talking about selling

carbon credits (climate pollution offsets) instead of championing a national rollout of ecosystem accounting? Why are we not using this moment to set a new standard in climate and nature protection?

The Great Koala National Park should be our opportunity to lead with integrity. Let us protect our forests not because they can be sold to the highest bidding climate polluters, but because they are priceless. Let us invest in their restoration not to reward polluters, but to leave a safer, more just world for those who come after us.

We have the tools. We have the knowledge. What we need now is the courage to do better than resort to the failed market tools that got us into the climate mess we're in, and the wisdom to value what truly counts.

## A year on: reflections and updates on Lismore Council

It has been an honour to represent our area this past year, navigating both challenges and opportunities.

### CSIRO flood modelling

Our attempts to amend Mayor Krieg's recommendation that Council endorse CSIRO's work under the Northern Rivers Resilience Initiative fell on deaf ears. Consequently Nature-Based Solutions have not been supported in the project. We also felt that the consultation process has been deeply flawed.

This is particularly concerning as the most recent scenarios which include the draining of the Tuckean Swamp and the digging of giga litres deep detention basins in the catchment around Nimbin with six other possibly proposed in our beautiful small, fast and wild catchment.

Communities were not given the chance to ask questions or understand what was in the bundles and scenarios and they were not informed of the added locations.

Until there is transparency, clarity, and inclusion of nature-based solutions and exclusion of destructive engineering we will oppose this project.

### Code of meeting practice

One of the year's big items in local government has been the State Government's new reforms. What matters to Sydney seems to be how councillors look: ties, tattoos, or standing when the mayor enters. What really matters is how we

listen, debate, and make decisions. Respect comes from substance, not outdated rituals.

If the State truly wants to improve local government, it should focus on stronger codes of conduct and ensuring briefings happen and are public. Residents deserve to see the same information that informs Council decisions. Good governance comes from transparency and open discussion, not closed doors.

### Roads and landslips

After three and a half years, major repair works are finally underway, particularly in the north of the LGA. Council has launched a new webpage so residents can follow progress, a welcome improvement in transparency. It's a huge body of work, and while there is a long road ahead, it's heartening to see progress.

Roads and landslip works updates website: <https://caportal.com.au/lismore-city-council/project-pipeline>

### September Council Meeting

Council accepted the acquittal of the Nimbin Business Rate by the Chamber of Commerce, who continue to deliver valuable initiatives.

Council also resolved to write off \$318,592 of Norco's trade waste charges. I argued for a reduced write-off that recognised Norco's fault in a second incident, but when this failed I supported the staff recommendation, recognising Norco's role as a cooperative enterprise and major employer during difficult recovery times.



by Cr Virginia Waters

I congratulate Cr Hall on being elected deputy mayor. However, I fundamentally disagree with the decision to set the deputy mayor's tenure for the remainder of the Council term until 2028.

I believe the deputy mayor should be elected annually. This provides opportunity for other councillors to gain leadership experience and strengthens succession planning for Council.

### Nimbin questions on notice

Two questions came from Nimbin. The first, from the Headers Soccer Club, concerning dogs entering their fields from the Rainbow Walk. Council resolved to work with the club to install a bin and dog poo bag dispenser. Please don't let your dogs on the playing fields and be responsible and pick up their poo.

The second was about the Nimbin western carpark. Reports of illegal camping and antisocial behaviour, including excrement being thrown into school grounds, are

unacceptable. While policing can help with safety, the deeper solution lies in funding local services such as the Nimbin Neighbourhood Centre and providing proper mental health and housing support.

Housing is a human right, and State and Federal Governments must invest more in public and community housing. Council must keep advocating for this into the future as a priority and work with community to address solutions.

### Waste facility

Council considered a new waste facility at Blakebrook Quarry. I remain cautious: the site is in the drinking water catchment with a history of contamination.

The business model also limits options to either a regional facility or sending waste to Queensland, ruling out a local-only model as "unaffordable."

Meanwhile, re-opening Waste Cell 2B in December will buy us another decade, but long-term decisions must be transparent, sustainable, and safe.

### Food security

Council also moved to dissolve a previous resolution around food security governance and instead focused only on part of the motion, determining that the "highest and best use" of buyback properties would be decided by staff. This removed all reference to food security.

I voted against this, firstly as I believe community input is vital. These decisions must not be made

without meaningful engagement with the people most affected. And secondly food security, and its governance, is just as important.

I will continue to advocate for food security governance to be embedded in local and regional planning, including the Local Strategic Planning Statement and future land use policy frameworks, so that food security is treated as a core priority.

In the face of increasing disaster events and the growing impacts of climate change, treating food security as central to community wellbeing and stability is not optional but essential.

### Community and the arts

Community events have also been a highlight. The new amenities block at the Nimbin Pool is simply spectacular; a big thank you goes to Julie De Lorenzo and also the students of Nimbin Central for the mural on the pool floor, a beautiful contribution that captures our environment and community spirit.

Another highlight was opening the Nimbin Spring Arts Exhibition, now in its third decade.

I also had the pleasure of attending the opening of 'Strictly for the Birds' at Lake Street, Lismore, which featured over 70 participating artists.

Please do keep reaching out; this role only works when we do it together and appreciate the communities support in my role.

Feel free to contact me at: [Virginia.Waters@lismore.nsw.gov.au](mailto:Virginia.Waters@lismore.nsw.gov.au)  
The views expressed here are mine.

**I love working with our local communities to make a real difference**

**GETTING THINGS DONE**

**Janelle Saffin MP**  
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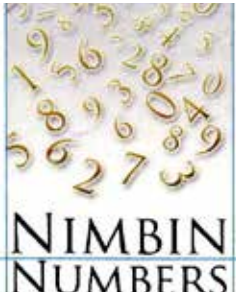

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# In your neighbourhood...

## Nimbin Neighbourhood and Information Centre News

### Thriving kids and changes to the NDIS

NNIC is looking for input from families who may be impacted by the changes in order to better understand the needs of families in our community in the context of the proposed changes to the NDIS, so that we can better advocate for services for families in the Nimbin area.

We are running a survey for this purpose which can be accessed via the below link. Links are also available on our face book page and website: <https://forms.gle/G2wiHk2miqiP6VuC8>

### CDAT Sharps Safe booklet

This booklet is available from NNIC and is aimed at primary school-aged children and their parents/teachers around what to do if you find discarded sharps in community settings.

It is full of useful info for the adults and safe messaging for the kids. Drop in or mail us if you would like a copy.

### Market stalls

Look out for us at the odd Wednesday Farmers Market and monthly Sunday Market with lots of sustainable goodies on sale from 7 Sibley Street.

### Mobile Services Australia

The Services Australia bus will be in town parked opposite the Neighbourhood Centre on Monday 13th October from 9am to 4pm.

The mobile service offers assistance with payments information, and support and is basically the same as the main service centre in Lismore but on wheels.

No appointments necessary – just drop in.

### Donations

Thanks so much to the Nimbin Branch of the CWA for their generous donations of \$500 to 7 Sibley Street and \$500 to our gift fund.

Also to the anonymous donor who donated \$1000 to 7 Sibley Street. We are very grateful.



Nimbin Neighbourhood &  
Information Centre

### Fundraising campaign

See the September edition of the NGT where we announced the disappointing loss of our emergency relief funds. Our aim is to replace that funding with donations and fundraising to help maintain our capacity to assist with material aid and food relief for community members who may be struggling with costs of living and financial pressures.

The amount lost is around \$20,000 per year. We are keen to explore the possibility of the Nimbin community raising the income to replace it.

To raise \$20,000 a year we would need around 200 donors donating \$8 each month or 100 donors donating \$15 per month or 50 donors donating \$30 a month.

Can we do this Nimbin?

You can donate by dropping in and asking at our front desk or you can deposit directly into our gift fund account as follows:

BSB: 728 728 Summerland Bank; NNIC Gift Fund A/C no: 22205341

Reference: your name plus DON (name required only if you want a receipt, or acknowledgement).

Donations of \$2 or more are tax deductible. Email us or drop in for a tax receipt.

NB: Donations to the 7 Sibley Street project are not tax deductible. To donate to this project, contact us for details.

### 7 Sibley Street workshops on-line

People can now join the 7 Sibley Street Patreon site

to access on-line workshops and all sorts of tips and info and resources, plus book in and get discounts for on-site workshops.

NNIC members can join at less than half the price – just \$5 a month (non-NNIC members – \$12 a month). An absolute bargain to access a wealth of knowledge and resources. See: <https://www.patreon.com/7sibleystreet>

### Nimbin Disaster Resilience Group

NDRG has a new email address since the old email for the group went bung.

The new email address to contact the NDRG is: [NimbinDRG@nnic.org.au](mailto:NimbinDRG@nnic.org.au)

### Are you prepared?

As the summer storm season approaches, now is the time to start preparing for events including heat waves, storms with high winds and heavy rains and bushfires.

Book in with our community workers at NNIC for help making your personal disaster-ready plan if you need it.

There are a range of resources and info in the 'disaster' section of our website: <https://nnic.org.au/pub/index.php/disasters>

### Did you know?

NNIC services are available to any individuals and families in our community who need them.

There are no eligibility requirements – eg you don't need to be on a Centrelink benefit.

If you need help with something drop in or call us and we will see what we can do. If we can't help we probably know who can.

Nimbin Neighbourhood and Information Centre is committed to cultural and child safety. See our website for our Statements of Commitment to First Nations People and to Child Safety.

### Nimbin Aged Care & Respite Services

We assist frail aged people and their carers remain living at home and staying connected



Home & Community Care – our friendly, local support workers are qualified, certified, experienced, police checked, insured

SOCIAL CENTRE with air-con and Veranda: Mon-Fri 10am-2pm drop in for a cuppa, info on support services, computers, air-con

DEVICE ADVICE: Weds 9.30am-12.30pm, seniors can book for assistance with phone, tablet or laptop issues

SENIORS SOCIAL GROUPS - booking and fees apply

Nimbin Tuesday Morning Tea at centre

Garrimaa Café Group twice monthly Thursdays, 11-2

Wise Ones, Koonorigan Hall 4<sup>th</sup> Mon, bring plate to share

Bus Outings: 2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Tues, scenic drives, cafes & site-seeing

All NACRS aged care activities and services require MyAgedCare registration and assessment – [myagedcare.gov.au](http://myagedcare.gov.au) 1800 200 422

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Contact NACRS: 6689 1709 enquiries@nacrs.com.au  
or visit NACRS at Bottlebrush Studio, rainbow building at  
Nimbin Community Centre, 81 Cullen St  
[www.nacrs.com.au](http://www.nacrs.com.au)

# Nimbin Hospital information

### Child immunisation

By appointment, please phone 6630-0400.

### Early childhood nurse

Every Tuesday. Baby checks, weighs, post-natal support. For appointments, phone 6630-0400.

### Women's health nurse services

Third Thursday of the month, next is 16th October. Phone 6688-1400 for an appointment.

### Wound clinic

Monday, Wednesday and Friday from 8am. For self-referral, phone 6688-1433. Referrals also from Nimbin Hospital and GP clinic.

### Drug and alcohol counselling services available

For an appointment, please contact 6620-7600. A trained professional will ask you a few confidential questions and will provide you with an appointment time.

### Nurse practitioner clinic

Diabetes clinics: Third Thursday of the month, next is 16th October.

### Community Registered Nurse

Monday to Friday, 8am-4.30pm. Assessments, wound care, referrals, advocacy, provision of palliative care in the home, medication support. Phone 6688-1433 – leave a message, will return call swiftly.

### Nimbin NSP

Needle and syringe program open Monday to Thursday. Arrangements can be made to see a community Registered Nurse.

### Health advice line

Phone 1800-022-222 if you have a health issue. 24-hour, seven days a week, free service. A registered nurse will assess whether you need to go to an emergency department.

### Nimbin Hospital Auxiliary

Meetings are held on the first Wednesday of the month, 9.30am in the conference room of the Nimbin MPS. New members always welcome.





by Scott Sledge, president

Yes, winter has departed trailing wispy clouds containing rain showers. The flower blooms, sweet scents of pittosporum and fireflies in the air, herald Spring and so does the annual Nimbin Show, the weekend of 20th and 21st September. The event was missing the signature ‘Sustainability Alley’ due to the absence of Steph Seckold, but a number of local traders and agencies set up stalls near the food wagons to provide information and sometimes entertainment to a steady stream of locals and visitors.

NEC had a lot on offer, especially maps and handouts regarding the newly-formed campaign to have logging stopped in public native forests (PNL), calling on the NSW government to finish the job of establishing the Great Koala National Park (GKNP) and another set of reserves for wildlife in the Northern Rivers to be called Richmond Rivers Koala Parks (RRKP).

We also provided advice on how to read material that contains a lot of three- and four-letter acronyms!

The weather was kind and we look forward to more events in our region, such as Riverfest, focussed on the Richmond River, which commenced on 28th September and is running for a month, with most events staged at Ballina.

It is an opportunity to review the unhealthy state of the river and discuss plans to end fish kills due to acidic stormwater run-off.

### Temperatures have hit highs at the South Pole

The temperature high above Antarctica climbed more than 30 degrees Celsius in the last week of September, according to ABC Meteorologist Tom Saunders.

This is known as Sudden Stratospheric Warming (SSW), an event that has the potential to disrupt weather patterns across Australia for months. This may put paid to talk of a wetter than average spring season in Southeast Australia.

SSWs are extremely rare in the Southern Hemisphere, Saunders said, with only two major events documented in the past 60 years: one in 2002 and the other in 2019. Both resulted in some of the most devastating bushfires in Australia’s history.

### Moratorium on logging in GKNP

The encouraging NSW Labor government’s re-announcement of the GKNP was enthusiastically received in the community, except that it has yet to go through a number of steps following approval by Parliament.

There are a few hurdles yet to overcome, but most people believe the announcement of a moratorium on logging the 176,000 ha to be secured for preserving wildlife, especially the keystone koala populations.

Some say it means the government will allow the same volume of forests destruction but just taken from other areas... such as ours! Already several state forests near Casino – Braemar and Myrtle

– have “gone active” on the Forest Corp (FC) portal.

One forest activist said that people who care “... should tell Labor staffers, ministers and backbenchers that Minns’ spin and his shameful record to date as Premier have been not at all well received by many in the community and, unless urgently sorted, the issue of NFL will be a huge drag on their primary vote and an obvious gift to The Greens at the next state election.

“(Forest promoters) should say Minns himself will be a political liability for the Labor party if he is still leader at the next election and still has not delivered (campaign promises) in full... any unfinished business and or another lame promise for the 2027 election would be another huge political miscalculation. Labor candidates in marginal seats take note...”

Considering the dire state of the environment due to climate change, with a new report predicting severe weather events and rising sea levels, we have no time to muck around.

Respected consultant/ financial advisor Ken Henry said on public radio recently that our only hope to avoid worsening climate-related disasters is to reduce carbon emissions, and that is best achieved by stopping logging in native forests. Plant more trees and pay landholders to turn paddocks into forests. Loggers could be employed as foresters and workers on timber plantations.

In a speech to the National Press Club in his capacity as Chair of the Australian



NEC’s stall at the Nimbin Country Show

Climate and Biodiversity Foundation, Dr Henry advocated urgent reform of Australia’s *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* to enable a thriving net-zero economy. He said that Australia risks “being left behind” in a world rapidly heading towards a low-carbon future.

### A win for sanity

We have made numerous submissions against using wood products to generate electricity, so NEC was glad to learn that the IPC has rejected Redbank Verdant Earth’s restart of the closed Hunter Valley coal-fired Redbank power station using trees obtained from clearing well over 20,000 ha per year to spew 1.3 million tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub> into the atmosphere.

### Picnic for nature

The Nature Conservation Council of NSW has for several years promoted one day in Spring for environment groups to organise a day when local communities get together to enjoy a day out in nature.

This year NEC has decided

to showcase the new Rainbow Walking Track in the centre of Nimbin, opened earlier this year. We would like to invite you to be part of the action and come to our own Picnic for Nature between 11am and 3pm on Sunday 16th November.

### Stop Adani

A message from Adrian Burragubba in Queensland:

*“Federal Environment Minister Murray Watt has failed to respond to our urgent request for a meeting with Wangan and Jagalingou Cultural Custodians, and is failing to act on compelling scientific evidence showing Adani’s Carmichael Mine is threatening the destruction of the sacred Doongmabulla Springs. “Independent, peer-reviewed scientific studies demonstrate that mining operations are draining and polluting the ground-water that feeds these ancient sacred springs, risking the permanent destruction of sites central to the Mundagutta (Rainbow Serpent) ancestor dreaming and endangered ecological communities.”*

Adrian Burragubba on behalf of the Wangan and Jagalingou Nagana Yarrbayn Cultural Custodians, has filed an

action against the Queensland Government in the Supreme Court for failing to protect their human and cultural rights.

The level of water extraction by the Adani mine is threatening the sacred Doongmabulla Springs complex, a site of immense spiritual, cultural and environmental value. Independent science shows the mine is draining and polluting the sacred springs.

You can support the W&J legal battle at: [chuffed.org](http://chuffed.org), Protect Sacred Waters.

### Next meeting

NEC meets on the second Wednesday of the month at 5pm in the Comskool Room in the Nimbin Community Centre, 81 Cullen Street. All welcome. Next meeting is 8th October.

Or drop into the NEC shop and Information Centre at 54 Cullen Street and say hi. The shop is open (mostly) seven days a week from 10am to 4pm. It stocks local, organic, handmade, ethical and sustainable products.

Staffed by volunteers, all funds raised go to protecting the environment.

## It’s time to create the Richmond River Koala Parks

by Kyogle Environment Group

Right now, our region has a once-in-a-generation opportunity to permanently protect 56,200 hectares of public native forest in the southern Richmond River valley and along the Richmond Range.

These forests aren’t just trees. They are the kidneys of our river system, the home of a genetically unique koala population, and vital refuges for wildlife still recovering from the devastating 2019-20 bushfires, which scorched 86% of the area.

The Richmond River Koala Parks (RRKPs) would safeguard the largest stronghold of koalas in the catchment, a population genetically distinct from those in the recently announced Great Koala National Park.

They would also link fragmented wildlife populations, protect over 35,000 hectares of inadequately reserved forest ecosystems, and



help Australia meet its international commitment to conserve 30% of this bioregion by 2030.

But this campaign is not just about koalas. It’s about restoring the Richmond River itself, one of the most degraded rivers in NSW.

Logging and poor land management have left the system sick, with regular fish kills and collapsing ecosystems.

Protecting riparian forests is key to bringing the river back to life.

Safeguarding these forests would improve water quality, reduce erosion, increase water yield during dry periods, and help prevent future fish kills by reconnecting floodplains.

We urgently need to stop releasing the carbon stored in forests by logging, and instead enable them to draw down and store the millions of tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub> released into the atmosphere by past logging if we want to address climate change.



Our forests need time to heal, not further destruction. The need for action is urgent. During the Black Summer bushfires, more

than 60% of these regenerating forests burned.

A leaked report from the NSW Natural Resources Commission recommended that the hardest-hit areas not be logged.

That advice was ignored, and logging continues today threatening wildlife recovery and accelerating ecosystem collapse.

Community support is crucial. The campaign is calling on the NSW Government to end native forest logging and establish the Richmond River Koala Parks.

To make this vision a reality, we need to raise our voices. You can help by signing the petition, contacting local MPs, and spreading the word.

More information is available at: [www.nefa.org.au](http://www.nefa.org.au) or: [www.richmondriverkoalaparks.com](http://www.richmondriverkoalaparks.com)

The Richmond River and its koalas are running out of time.

Protecting these forests would restore ecosystems, secure clean water, fight climate change, and give our wildlife a fighting chance.

This is our moment to act and it’s one we can’t afford to miss.



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# Richmond Flood Model drop-in sessions again raise more questions than answers

by Dr Luke Robinson, Upper Richmond catchment resident

Once again, our Northern Rivers communities have been let down by a less than transparent “consultation” process.

In August, we were asked by the CSIRO/NEMA to rank which of a predetermined, limited but vague list of hard engineering flood mitigation measures for the Richmond catchment we would like to be modelled, without clear and detailed information to make an informed decision.

The measures now selected by the CSIRO include many new names and locations that no-one could have specifically voted for.

Bundle 1 includes Upper Nimbin, Rock Valley, Corndale, Fawcetts and Barlings detention basins, and Bundle 2 in addition includes Collins Valley, Booyong, Bentley and ominously, Dunoon.

Along with the ‘Tuckombil upgrade’, none of these particular locations were listed in the original 15 options presented.

We still don’t know exactly where all these detention basins would go. To make any substantial impact on flood heights in a 2022 scenario, it has been estimated they will need a combined holding capacity of 400-500 gegalitres. It would require 28 to 35 basins the size of Rocky Creek Dam (14 gegalitres) to hold that much water back!

The specific basin locations and sizes need to be decided before the model takes its many months to run, so why not tell us beforehand?

Whose homes and farms, which forests or cultural sites will be endangered during construction and floods? How long will forests and farm vegetation remain inundated – what are the kill-zones? Where will the earth come from for construction? How will all this affect landslide risk? How much will the



Bundle 2 mitigation measures

gated detention basins cost to build and maintain?

It is a waste of valuable modelling time and money to include measures that would likely never be granted the social licence, let alone the many billions of dollars of government funding required, if the details of their costs and impacts were known.

However, when it comes to Nature Based Solutions (NBS), we see a double-standard applied. Despite NBS not being included as an option to vote for in August, they were

nonetheless demonstrated to have deep community support through comments on feedback forms.

Yet the CSIRO responded that “No details have been provided for these proposed interventions ... therefore we are not in a position to implement any of these at this time.”

This is disingenuous. Few details were provided for the hard engineering measures, yet we were given a tiny box on the paper forms and only 255 characters online to provide their “detail” for NBS.

If the CSIRO/NEMA were serious about this consultation, they should have proactively sought to model NBS, alongside other mitigation measures with community support, from the start. To use data from NEMA-funded NBS trials run by Richmond Landcare and associated universities to model NBS at a catchment scale.

Ultimately, for major and catastrophic floods like 2022, no mitigation measures are likely to be sufficient, and the only guaranteed way to keep people and property safe is to get them off the floodplain.

The NSW government’s attempts to do this so far been grossly inadequate, patchy, glacially slow, and again, with poor community consultation.

A properly targeted house relocation/raising program done once is likely to be far cheaper than building, maintaining and compensating landowners for the large-scale, widespread and invasive hard engineering measures proposed.

Our community wants to be protected from the impact of flooding. We do value the role of good science in helping achieve this. But we expect to be consulted properly, and not corralled into meekly accepting a mutating list of expensive and destructive hard engineering measures that do not have the social licence claimed.

It is not too late for the CSIRO/NEMA and government to finally listen, and serve our community.

## US descent into despotism

Revenge of the Loon  
by Laurie Axtens

It would be far too easy to waste column centimetres on the death cult that is the United States of America and its unholy descent into a despotism.

But the temptation is too great... it’s so ghoulish, so foul, like watching a Boeing 747 crash in a massive fireball in super slow mo...

But let’s be real, it is little more than the same brutal regime change that the CIA has inflicted on South America countries for many decades – so I’m struggling to care.

Although it has outed a few far right anti-democratic goons here, generally the loss of the rule of law and the emergence of masked government-funded hit squads disgusts us as Australians.

They talk about Christian values of love and compassion, but below that very shallow veneer we see



what they actually want... the military in the streets 24/7, totalitarian control of every part of our lives – what we think, who we can watch on TV and those that don’t comply get to live in a gulag surrounded by alligators without recourse to the law or hope.

This is what happens when corporations start thinking compliance with a dictator is more economically advantageous than humanitarian governance – but corporations are reliant

on their consumers and their workers.

Strikes and boycotts work. They take discipline to maintain, but in a strange twist of fate Trump seems determined to self inflict tariffs which will help us isolate them as a nation and will create economic instability for his corporate leaders.

Trump is powerless without corporate compliance; no fascist state can exist without their big companies executives holding their noses and doing the dirty deeds ‘requested’ of them by those regimes.

There are decent people in the US, we must help them.

As a country we need to go the next step, leave AUKUS and cancel the \$368 Billion dollar nuclear subs deal.

We can’t bankroll what’s going on over there. We don’t want their blood on our hands.

More will need to be done, but it’s a good start and it will help our balance of trade as well.

## New head for Lismore Gallery

by Ashleigh Ralph, director

The start of October marks twelve months since the re-opening of Lismore Regional Gallery building after the flood.

The past year has been defined by our ambition to reconnect art, artists and audiences across the Northern Rivers and beyond.

In that time, we have presented 27 exhibitions, delivered over 90 public programs, engaged more than 229 artists and cultural practitioners, and welcomed over 181,000 people as audiences and participants.

We have presented five major touring exhibitions alongside exhibitions that reflected the diversity of practice in our region, while extending our reach through interstate and international partnerships.

Now I will be taking the next twelve months off to start a family. The gallery will be led by Acting Director Courtney Gibson, who brings extensive experience as a screen, arts and culture leader.

As a public art institution, our role is to generate cultural value, expand access to ideas and foster dialogue through contemporary art.

We have continued to deliver free and accessible programs and curated responsive activities and talks that connect communities with the artists behind the exhibitions.

Looking ahead, as one of only three regional galleries in New South Wales to secure multi-year funding for our creative program, we remain focused on long-term sustainability.

This includes extended exhibition periods, responsible exhibition-making practices, seasonal adjustments and fundraising initiatives.



Retiring director Ashleigh Ralph

projection in the Lismore Quadrangle by a Bundjalung artist whose work is embedded in personal experiences based on connection to Country, family, community and history.

• **10th October – 30th November:** Estefania Minniti: *El tiempo es oro (Time is gold)*, a multidisciplinary exploration of the profound theme of time: its impact on relationships, transitions, and the fleeting nature of existence by this Argentinian-born visual artist now residing in Australia.

• **Wednesday 29th October, 5–6pm:** Sound Alchemy with Rohani Binti. Rest in stillness as layers of harmonic sound – crystal singing bowls, chimes, gongs, and planetary tuning forks – ripple through your body, dissolving tension and easing the mind into a meditative state. It is an offering of intentional rest, gentle activation, nervous system nourishment, and deep listening – opening a pathway back to balance, clarity, deep inner rest and insight.

Tickets are limited, and bookings are essential: \$15 / \$10 conc. Bring a yoga mat, cushion and blanket.

Meanwhile, work continues behind the scenes to secure a safe home for our collection,

Keep up-to-date with the gallery’s program at: <https://lismoregallery.org>



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**Workshops! Now available at any time:** On-line at [www.patreon.com/c/7sibleystreet](http://www.patreon.com/c/7sibleystreet) any time for the price of two coffees each month, with access to all workshops, instructions and recipes, as well as supporting your community-owned Sustainable Living Hub. Half price for members of NNIC.

**Regular Workshops:** Gold coin donation

- **Tues 7th: nimBIN CHICKENS** Join our community recycling project. Learn how to identify plastic to be shredded and re-made into useful stuff at the showground horse shed.
- **Thurs 9th: Spinners and Weavers** (Every 2nd Wednesday of month.)
- **Tues 16th: Knitting and Crochet Circle** (Every 3rd Tuesday of the month.)
- **Sat 18th: Mulch Mats** Reduce evaporation and fertilize new tree plantings. Off-site workshop, bookings essential, email: [sibley@nnic.org.au](mailto:sibley@nnic.org.au)
- **Community Tools Library:** Every Wed and Sat 10.30am-2pm, for home repairs, garden tools, food and craft equipment. Join at Nimbin Neighbourhood Centre Mon-Fri. Basketballs and pump available: with \$5 refundable deposit.



# Roxby vigil highlights nuclear concerns

from the Roxby vigil

The 28th Australian Nuclear Free Alliance (ANFA) gathering at Pitchi Ritchi in the Flinders Ranges has occurred. The sense of industrial activity is not present.

People tell us it is a traditional gathering place along the ancestral pathway of the oldest mountain range of the continent. It is bounded to the west by the channel/pathway of the old inland sea, Lake Torrens.

ANFA is led by original peoples whose communities have weathered all the onslaughts of the nuclear industry from Maralinga to the present day. It is they who have been on the front line of it all.

### Uranium mines

There is gratitude that the efforts of many people have realised a stay on the development of nuclear power generation in Australia.

There is acknowledgement and a deep sense of commitment to seeing through the finalisation and clean-up of the NT uranium mines, Ranger and Jabiluka. The challenges of restoring country impacted by uranium mining are enormous, and at what point can it be truly said, it is done?

Of the four sites in WA identified as prospective uranium mines, only at Mulga Rock is there currently a possibility of development. It is located in very isolated country. The local people are here to keep us updated on what is happening out there.

SA hosts Roxby Downs (Olympic Dam), Beverly (Four Mile) and Honeymoon uranium mines.

An expansion of Roxby at Oak Dam is already being developed. BHP has replaced the ageing smelter infrastructure at Olympic Dam (OD) and is gearing up to be the 'Processing Hub' for its three sites at OD, Prominent Hill and Oak Dam.

While all three sites are now owned by BHP and are of the same geophysical source (a continuous graben), only OD openly declares mining for uranium amongst its copper and gold deposits.

What are the implications for the other two sites which have not been given the same scrutiny as OD? An EIS for Oak Dam is supposed to be made public within the coming year.

Impacts on the Great Artesian Basin and the Mound Springs continue to cause severe decline as a result of this mining and water extraction from Roxby's Borefields.

The water table has dropped by 10 metres over an area of 4,000 sq kms. There's no artesian water for Marree anymore.

At Alberrie Creek, 9.22pm on 4th September, a 2.7 magnitude earthquake was



recorded adjacent to Roxby's Borefield A (is there a connection?) giving off an explosive all-pervasive blast of sound and tremendous earth movement experienced by those quietly around the fire in that vicinity, and by the people of Marree, 60 kms to the east.

Beverly mine's in-situ acid-leach productivity may wane by the end of this decade. However, exploration is occurring at another site within this same region. Where people once swam in the springs as children, there is now a toxic/radioactive mud slurry.

Honeymoon mine reached production and export levels last year but is still currently uneconomical. Exploration for a new uranium deposit (Samphire) south of Whyalla is now underway.

Increased military activity (weapons testing) in the Woomera Prohibited Area has been publicly reported through news media. Private rocket launching has begun on Kokatha country near Ceduna.

The Northern Water Project, a major government/industry investment, is to provide desalinated water for these projects. An EIS is being produced for this Spencer Gulf desalination plant proposal.

### Radioactive waste

The storage of radioactive waste remains an unresolved issue. It is widely understood there is currently sufficient storage at the nuclear reactor site at Lucas Heights to manage Australia's low-level nuclear waste for the foreseeable future.

WA continues to host low-level nuclear waste disposal at a privately-owned toxic waste facility east of Kalgoorlie. This facility has been quietly authorised by the WA government.

A halt on the production of radioactive materials and subsequent by-products and waste would be useful in being able to manage what has already been produced and not adding to the existing stockpile.

The dilemma lies in the fact that should an acceptable site and facility be agreed to, we then face the fact that many countries are just waiting to rid themselves of their own stockpiles and would see Australia as a desirable dumping ground. It is explicit in the AUKUS agreement.

Successive attempts to establish waste dumps in SA, NT and WA have been rejected. Many of the people present at this gathering have had first-hand experience of what it was like for their communities to face up to government and corporate pressure for nuclear waste facilities to be established on their traditional country.

People describe the years of worry for the country, the deep divisions caused within their own communities and the tireless commitment it took to ensure these developments did not occur. 'Free, prior and informed consent' must be a pre-requisite for any future dealings between first nation communities and industry.

In SA, the Nuclear Waste Storage Facility (Prohibition) Act 2000 was achieved directly as the result of the efforts of the Kungka Jura to ensure a nuclear waste facility was not able to be built at Billa Kallina to the north-west of OD.

The Commonwealth Government is now seeking to over-ride this act (early November) in order to achieve storage of radioactive waste from nuclear submarines potentially being built and docking at Port Adelaide.

Nuclear submarines docking in Fremantle will also require waste disposal facilities. It is as yet unclear what full disclosure might entail in relation to what would be medium to high level American and British waste disposal within the AUKUS agreement.

Currently UK high level waste is categorised as medium level waste in Australia.

### Nuclear weapons

Work continues with the efforts of ICAN in curtailing the proliferation of nuclear weapons production worldwide. De-escalation of overt militarisation in our world is a profound and deeply committed sense of our shared reality and at every level of community action and government decision-making. There is a role we can all play.

We shared the 80th anniversary of the bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki and heard the testimonies of people affected by nuclear weapons testing in Australia, in America and in the Pacific. The long-term legacy of

nuclear fallout lives on in the psyche of people today. Record numbers of people suffering from unprecedented levels of impacts from cancers and chronic illness is ever-present in the accounts of all the people speaking from this experience.

Here in Australia, this long-term health impact has never been given serious priority in terms of any follow-up of peoples' exposure.

It is a subtle and insidious contamination that we can't see, smell or taste. We don't know where its permeations lie or the harm that is being done to even our youngest and most vulnerable. Future generations will feel this legacy.

A speaker from the Medical Association for the Prevention of War has given an in-depth appraisal of the impacts on health from radiation and the possible long-term alteration of DNA throughout multiple generations. Psychological impacts of chronic and debilitating ill-health are on the rise.

### Where to now?

At every level of the nuclear fuel industry chain there are inherent issues of radioactive contamination to people and the planet. The on-going personal and community impacts of this industry are unfathomable, given the depth to which Australia is now a committed partner.

We have gone from a situation where governments were at least taking some degree of caution in terms of limits placed on uranium mining and its oversight, to where the Commonwealth now seeks to distance itself as far as possible from responsibility for the safety and well-being of communities, largely leaving it to the states to inadequately surveil an industry which the government itself has a vested interest in seeing succeed.

There is a possibility that the 2026 Conference of Parties (COP) Summit will be held in Adelaide. Final decision pending. This would be an opportunity to show a presence and tell the story.

We don't know what the future holds in a world of persistent fluctuation but the original peoples are guiding the way, as we all take positive action for peace in our world.

For more information, contact: [anfa.org.au](http://anfa.org.au)

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by Marty de Weerd

The Nimbin Roots Festival will celebrate its tenth and final year this October, with director Lou Bradley confirming the event will not return in 2026.

Bradley said the decision follows the launch of her new Mullum Roots Festival earlier this year.

"After hosting the Mullum Roots Festival for the first time, I realised there isn't room for both, both creatively and time management," Bradley said.

She added that Mullumbimby feels better suited to her evolving artistic direction.

"As the years have gone by, my preferences have changed as I've started to include more and more big-name acts. Mullumbimby seems to be more receptive to these changes."

The news has left fans "a bit shocked and a bit sad," Bradley admitted, "but the good news is we're only moving over the hill and not disappearing!"

For the past decade the Roots Festival has joined a long tradition of cultural events that have shaped Nimbin's identity. From the 1973 Aquarius Festival to the annual MardiGrass and the more recently established World Peace Festival, Nimbin has often been the stage for gatherings that mix music, counterculture and community.

The Roots Festival carved its own place in that landscape by drawing national touring acts and dedicated music lovers into village each spring.

While the festival has attracted thousands of visitors, it has not been without challenges. Nimbin's limited accommodation and transport links have made access difficult, and some in the community have questioned whether the event felt strongly connected to local culture.

Business owners have also observed that benefits were uneven. Some traders thrived during festival weekends, while others saw little change or even felt stretched by the extra demands.

In response, the Nimbin Chamber of Commerce has worked with organisers to boost local involvement for this year's festival. Initiatives include discounted tickets for residents, program slots for Nimbin musicians, timetable breaks to ease pressure on food vendors, and promotions such as a "Best-Dressed Window" competition to connect the festival with village businesses.

The 2025 program will highlight the diversity of styles that have defined the event. Headliners include ARIA winners The Audreys, singer-songwriter Emily Lubitz, reggae outfit Kingfisha, blues-rock duo Hussey Hicks, and Mungo Fungo featuring Ben Ely of Regurgitator.

Festival favourite Dog Trumpet, featuring brothers Reg Mombassa and Peter O'Doherty, will also return. Reg, a celebrated artist and former Mental as Anything guitarist, has again designed this year's official festival poster, adding a special touch to the farewell.

The line-up also features a strong showing from Northern Rivers musicians, giving local talent the chance to perform alongside nationally recognised acts in what promises to be a rich and varied program.

Bradley said no special farewell is planned.

"The festival has always been about the music," she said. "I think there will be a special feeling that goes along with the last one though, that's for sure."

As the Nimbin Roots Festival prepares to bow out, conversations are turning to what might follow. Some community groups are calling for a more locally driven event in 2026, one that reflects Nimbin's character and shares the benefits more evenly.

The question remains whether Nimbin still has the appetite for another live music festival, given the crowded calendar of cultural events and the mixed experiences of past years.

What replaces the Roots Festival, if anything, may depend on how strongly the community embraces the idea.

## Soundcheck Q&A

Allison Forbes



Home base:  
Tamworth

First album  
purchase: *Hangin' Tough* – New Kids on the Block

Best festival experience: Watching Jason Isbell at Bluesfest

Festival hack: STAY HYDRATED!!

Performing: Saturday 3.30pm @ Bowlo



Hannah Pearl

Homebase:  
Nimbin born and bred

First album  
purchase: Hildegard von Bingen (don't ask me why)

Best festival experience: performing at Woodford on NYE on the main stage

Festival hack: Hat and scarf. You can wet the scarf and stay cool in the day and let it dry it's warm at night.

Performing: Friday 1pm @ Bowlo

Mitch King



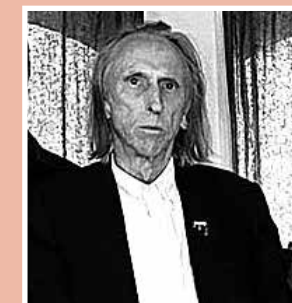
Home base: the Granite Belt in the Stanthorpe region

First album  
purchase: *Californication* by the Red Hot Chilli Peppers

Best festival experience: Woodford Folk Festival

Festival hack: I've found bringing a trolley has been a good hack for saving your back

Perfoming: Friday 7pm @ Bowlo



Reg Mombassa  
(Dog Trumpet)

Home base: Glebe, Sydney

First album purchase:

Three albums from a mail order service in 1988 – Mississippi John Hurt, Lightning Hopkins and the Jim Kweskin Jug Band.

Best festival experience: Playing at and attending the 2023 Blues Festival.

Performing: Saturday 9.30pm @ Hall  
Sunday 8pm @ Bowlo

NIMBIN ROOTS FESTIVAL			
10 Years			
FRIDAY 24 OCT			
BOWLO			
HANNAH PEARL 1PM - 2PM			
CALICO 2.30PM - 3.30PM			
JIMMY DOWLING 4PM - 5PM			
DAVID DAVIES & THE SKP'S 5.30PM - 6.30PM			
MITCH KING 7PM - 8PM			
YAZMINDI 8.30PM - 9.30PM			
THIRST TRAP 10PM - 11PM			
HALL			
JOSHUA LEE WRIGHT 1PM - 2PM			
MUNGO FUNGO (BEN FROM REGURGITATOR) 2.30PM - 3.30PM			
TRIPSITTA 4PM - 5PM			
ROGUE ELEMENTS 5.30PM - 6.30PM			
MATTY ROGERS 7PM - 8PM			
HUSSY HICKS 8.30PM - 9.30PM			
WILD MARMALADE 10PM - 11PM			
SATURDAY 25 OCT			
BOWLO			
CALICO 11AM - 12PM			
4 EYED WATER BOY 12.30PM - 1.30PM			
ANDREA SOLER & TIM TONKIN 2PM - 3PM			
ALLISON FORBES 3.30PM - 4.30PM			
THE HOOCHERS 5PM - 6PM			
MISS EILEEN & KING LEAR 6.30PM - 7.30PM			
SUNDAY LEMONADE 8PM - 9PM			
THE GOLDEN GAYTIMES 9.30PM - 10.30PM			
HALL			
SNEAKER THIEF 11AM - 12PM			
PAUL GREENE 12.30PM - 1.30PM			
THE APPOINTMENTS 2PM - 3PM			
THE MUDFLOWERS 3.30PM - 4.30PM			
MACK AND COOK (FEATURING MURRAY COOK) 5PM - 6PM			
DEN HANRAHAN 6.30PM - 7.30PM			
EMILY LUBITZ 8PM - 9PM			
DOG TRUMPET 9.30PM - 10.30PM			
CHURCH			
*SITR 11AM - 12PM			
*SITR 12.30PM - 1.30PM			
*SITR 2PM - 3PM			
*SITR 3.30PM - 4.30PM			
SUNDAY 26 OCT			
BOWLO			
STEVE MILLER 11AM - 12PM			
THE APPOINTMENTS 12.30PM - 1.30PM			
TWO TEARS IN A BUCKET 2PM - 3PM			
DEN HANRAHAN 3.30PM - 4.30PM			
PAUL GREENE 5PM - 6PM			
LOU BRADLEY 6.30PM - 7.30PM			
DOG TRUMPET 8PM - 9PM			
HUSSY HICKS 9.30PM - 10.30PM			
HALL			
TOMI JANKE 11AM - 12PM			
MISSUS HIPPIY AND THE LOVE HANDLES 12.30PM - 1.30PM			
MISS EILEEN & KING LEAR 2PM - 3PM			
THE GOLDEN GAYTIMES 3.30PM - 4.30PM			
EMILY LUBITZ 5PM - 6PM			
SUNDAY LEMONADE 6.30PM - 7.30PM			
THE AUDREYS 8PM - 9PM			
KINGFISHA 9.30PM - 10.30PM			
CHURCH			
NIMBIN POETS 11AM - 12PM			
*SITR 12.30PM - 1.30PM			
*SITR 2PM - 3PM			
*SITR 3.30PM - 4.30PM			





Linsey Pollak



Shenzo Gregorio

# A night of world-class music

Music lovers will experience world-class music, and welcome four of Australia's most celebrated and daring multi-instrumentalists at The Listening Sessions at the Lillifield Community Centre on Saturday 25th October.

This one-of-a-kind concert unfolds entirely in the moment – nothing is written, and nothing rehearsed beyond a single pitch that anchors the music.

You are invited to delve deep into a shared musical imagination, where time dissolves and what remains are connections, conversations, emotions, silences, surprises – and endless possibilities. All you need to do is listen.

The Listening Sessions bring together

percussion legend Greg Sheehan, who has inspired generations with his rhythmic innovations and unique Rhythm Diamonds system; and cultural trailblazer Linsey Pollak, a composer, multi-instrumentalist and instrument maker, and director with over 40 albums and international tours across Europe, North America, and Asia.

Also on-board is virtuoso violinist Shenzo Gregorio, known for dazzling performances everywhere from Nimbin's own Blue Moon Cabaret, to Carnegie Hall to festivals across Russia, Brazil, Asia, India, Europe and Australia; and master percussionist Tunji Beier, whose journey from

Yoruba drumming in Nigeria to advanced studies in India has led to collaborations with world greats like Zakir Hussain, Trilok Gurtu, and Bill Cobham.

Together, they create a world-class musical experience unlike anything else.

The Listening Sessions performs at Lillifield Community Hall on Saturday 25th October, 7pm at 4505 Kyogle Road, Wadeville.

Profits from Lillifield show will be donated to 'Resilient Lismore': [resilientlismore.org.au](https://resilientlismore.org.au)

Book tickets at: <https://events.humanitix.com/the-listening-sessions-lillifield>

# For the love of music

The Northern Rivers Conservatorium (NRC) is buzzing with activity, both inside the music rooms and outside the building.

Our beautiful heritage home in downtown Lismore has received some much-needed restoration love and is looking stunning, thanks to funding from Create NSW.

The underpinning works currently underway are strengthening her foundations and ensuring the Con will remain a vibrant centre for music, education, and community for many years to come.

While the building is being renewed, the music hasn't stopped. Each week our halls echo with the sounds of pre-schoolers discovering their first songs, bands rehearsing, adult learners trying out new instruments, and ensembles preparing for concerts.

From early childhood through to advanced performance, the Con continues to support musicians of all ages and stages to learn, grow, and share in the joy of music.

As the regional deliverer of music education, the Conservatorium not only supports lifelong learning but also offers professional development for teachers and musicians, strengthening the cultural and educational fabric of the Northern Rivers.

The Con is also an active presenter of events, workshops, and collaborations. We bring world-class performers to Lismore while nurturing homegrown talent, giving



students and the community unique opportunities to connect with music in all its jazz, classical, contemporary, and experimental forms.

**Coming up at the Con**

Young Spring String Band workshops: Wednesday 8th and Thursday 9th October.

Led by Mat Lydon (Way Out West) and Neil McCann (festival performer and NRC tutor), these workshops are for students in Years 4-12 with at least two years' playing experience.

Instruments: violin, cello, acoustic guitar, mandolin and

bass.

Participants will explore bluegrass, ragtime, and old-time string band traditions, building repertoire, improvisation, and performance skills.

Places are still available, cost: Seniors \$110 / Juniors \$75.

**Youth Jazz Orchestra performances**

- 18th October: Lismore Show
- 24th October: Rural Women's Gathering
- 2nd November: Lismore Jazz Club

**Listening sessions**

Friday 24th October, featuring Linsey Pollak, Greg Sheehan, Tunji Beer and Shenzo Gregorio in an uncharted journey of extended improvisation. Four master musicians creating soundscapes that will never be repeated – a one-of-a-kind evening.

**Afro-Cuban beats**

Pure Afro-Cuban Beats with Michele Salaris: Eight-week course starting Thursday 30th October, 5–6.30pm. Feel the pulse of Afro-Cuban beats from the Caribbean to the rhythms of Peru and Spain. Learn to play bongó, conga, timbales, or cajón while exploring genres such as rumba, salsa, and flamenco. Beginners and advanced player's welcome. Cost: \$320 includes tuition book.

Everything we do is for the love of music – if you want to find out more go to: [www.nrcac.edu.au](http://www.nrcac.edu.au)

### Friday Night Movie Programme

NIMBIN BUSH THEATRE

5:30pm Kitchen opens for Dinner  
6:30pm Theatre Doors Open  
\$15 / \$12 concession

**Friday 10 October**  
**DONNIE DARKO**  
A mind-bending tale of time, destiny, and teenage turmoil, the film weaves together themes of destiny, alternate realities, and extended angst – an iconic, haunting movie of mystery, suspense, and darkly surreal twists.

**Friday 24 October**  
**BARAKA**  
Award-winning 24 countries on six continents, it presents a breathtaking collage of natural landscapes, religious rituals, urban life, and human activity.

**Friday 31 October**  
**HALLOWEEN SPECIAL**  
A magical Halloween Event. Trick and Treat, with bubbles, fire, and spooky fun ending with the fan favourite film The Nightmare Before Christmas!

**Friday 7 November**  
**DELIVERANCE**  
This gripping film is remembered for its iconic "Swelling Rapids" scene and its raw, unending tension. A survival thriller where a weekend canoe trip turns into a chilling fight for life in the remote Georgia wilderness.

## Planet Music

LISMORE | NSW

# GIG GUIDE

### OCTOBER 2025

WEEKLY	Lismore Supper Club Soul Band	THURSDAYS
WEEKLY	Lismore City Bowlo	THURSDAYS
WEEKLY	5:30pm Ukulele Club	WEDNESDAYS
WEEKLY	Lismore City Bowlo	WEDNESDAYS
08 OCT	Monthly Irish Folk Jam	WEDNESDAY
08 OCT	Eltham Hotel	WEDNESDAY
08 OCT	Open Mic Night	WEDNESDAY
08 OCT	Lismore Open Mic Night	WEDNESDAY
09 OCT	Kacy & Clayton	THURSDAY
09 OCT	Eltham Hotel	THURSDAY
10 OCT	Winston Surfshirt	FRIDAY
10 OCT	The Northern Byron	FRIDAY
10 OCT	Hockey Dad Bowlo Tour	FRIDAY
10 OCT	Bangalow Bowlo	FRIDAY
11 OCT	The Chris Cornell Collection	SATURDAY
11 OCT	The Northern Byron	SATURDAY
12 OCT	Dug (Ireland)	SUNDAY
12 OCT	Eltham Hotel	SUNDAY
12 OCT	Lismore Jazz Club	SUNDAY
12 OCT	Lismore City Bowlo	SUNDAY
16 - 18 OCT	Northcoast Community Stage	THU-SAT
16 - 18 OCT	Lismore Showgrounds	THU-SAT
17 - 18 OCT	Off-Site with Connan Mockasin	FRI-SAT
17 - 18 OCT	Repentance Creek Hall	FRI-SAT
19 OCT	Nikki Lane (USA)	SUNDAY
19 OCT	Eltham Hotel	SUNDAY
24 OCT	The Listening Sessions	FRIDAY
24 OCT	Northern Rivers Conservatorium	FRIDAY
24 OCT	The Smith Street Band + Screamerfeeder	FRIDAY
24 OCT	The Northern Byron	FRIDAY
24 - 26 OCT	Nimbin Roots Festival	FRI-SUN
24 - 26 OCT	Multiple Venues across Nimbin	FRI-SUN
24 OCT	Smudged ft. Vinted Vineer + More	FRIDAY
24 OCT	Club Lennox	FRIDAY
25 OCT	Sylvie (USA) with Leah Senior	SATURDAY
25 OCT	Eltham Hotel	SATURDAY
25 OCT	Static Feedback	SATURDAY
25 OCT	Club Lennox	SATURDAY
25 OCT	The Partycles	SATURDAY
25 OCT	Lismore City Bowlo	SATURDAY
30 OCT	Skunkhour + Resin Dogs	THURSDAY
30 OCT	The Northern Byron	THURSDAY

SUBMIT YOUR SHOWS! [gigguide@planetmusic.com.au](mailto:gigguide@planetmusic.com.au)  
We'll feature them on our weekly gig guide via @planetmusicshop on instagram!



# Tribal Magic: 11 years of rising from the ashes

Last month marked 11 years since Tribal Magic reopened its doors after the devastating Nimbin township fire of 2014.

From the ashes of loss, the shop has grown into a vibrant reminder of resilience, colour and community spirit at the heart of our village.

Since relocating to the initial smaller part of the shop – which has since expanded into the larger store we know today – Tribal Magic has blossomed into more than just a business.

It's a place where locals and travellers alike can explore, connect, and find treasures that carry a spark of Nimbin's magic.

From flowing clothes to quirky gifts and enchanting oddities, the store continues to celebrate the creative soul of our town.

To celebrate this milestone, Tribal Magic is keeping the party alive with a massive Spring Sale running through October. Shoppers can enjoy up to 50% off selected items throughout the store – an invitation to treat yourself or a loved one to something with a little extra soul.

Eleven years on, Tribal Magic stands as a joyful testament to renewal: proof that even after fire, new growth always comes.

Here's to many more seasons of colour, magic and community in the beating heart of Nimbin.



Then mayor Jenny Dowell joined in the celebrations at the grand reopening of Tribal Magic 11 years ago.

# RPC powers up RFS brigades

Rainbow Power Company (RPC) has donated solar and battery systems to the Blue Knob and Hanging Rock Rural Fire Service (RFS) brigades, helping them stay operational when the grid goes down.

"These systems ensure our fire trucks remain operational during extended power outages," said Ken Wallis from Blue Knob RFS.

"The tracks on our truck bay doors rely on trickle chargers to keep batteries from going flat. Without power, that becomes a serious problem. Having a backup gives us peace of mind that we can respond whenever we are needed."

The new systems mean the brigades can keep essential equipment running during blackouts, from truck bay doors and vehicle batteries to radios, torches and fridges. For volunteers, it is a safeguard that is critical when disaster strikes.

Kelly Pittaway, Captain at Hanging Rock RFS, was equally appreciative: "I'm chuffed about this donation. During the 2022 floods, we were isolated for days with road closures, and this system would have made a significant difference."

"If we have power when others don't, we can become a crucial base for emergency operations in the area."

The benefits extend beyond equipment. During the 2022 floods, when communications across the region were cut,



RPC Sales Manager Gavin Phibbs, Ken Wallis, Blue Knob RFS and RPC CEO Matthes Wittemeier

communities were left isolated.

With Starlink satellite systems now being rolled out to RFS trucks, the solar and battery backup means local brigades could become vital communications hubs in future emergencies.

"If we had this in place after the floods, it would have made a huge difference," Wallis said. "People were desperate to contact loved ones and check on their welfare. With power and satellite internet, we can now keep those lines of communication open."

Rainbow Power Company CEO, Matthew Wittemeier, said the donation reflects the company's commitment to the region.

"Rainbow Power Company's future is grounded in community, and supporting our emergency services is a natural extension of that," he said.

Since 1987, Rainbow Power Company has been pioneering renewable energy in the Northern Rivers, designing and installing off-grid and hybrid systems across Australia.

As Wallis added, "Everything depends on electricity these days, so having a reliable backup for essential services is invaluable. This donation ensures our brigade can keep serving the community even when the grid is down."

Founded in 1987 in Nimbin, NSW, Rainbow Power Company is an unlisted public company dedicated to promoting and providing high-quality renewable energy solutions.

The company designs, manufactures, installs and manages cost-efficient off-grid and on-grid hybrid solar energy systems for residential and commercial clients.

# GIANT SPRING SALE

Over 11 Years Since Our Shop was burnt down in the Nimbin Township Fire, AND 11 Years since we found a new location just up the road!

Please help us **CELEBRATE**, and join us at **TRIBAL MAGIC** for our **GIANT SPRING SALE!**

**UPTO 50% OFF SELECTED ITEMS!**

Including: Womens, Mens & Childrens Winter & Summer Clothings, Bob Marley Merchandise, "Tree" T-Shirts, Homewares and More!

**(02) 6689 1905** **74a Cullen Street, NIMBIN, NSW, 2480**