

Roots Festival gallery

Another weekend of great music

by Mel Williamson

The last hurrah for the Nimbin Roots Fest was held on 24th-26th October.

After 10 years of fabulous music held over various venues in the village, Lou and Phil Bradley have called time and are looking ahead to new festival adventures.

Personal highlights this time around were earlier festival faves returning, including Den Hanrahan, Wild Marmalade with Paul George, Paul Greene and latter festival fave Dog Trumpet (what a class act).

Some personal first-time festival faves were 4 Eyed Water Boy, Miss Eileen and King Lear, The Golden Gaytimes, Emily Lubitz, Sunday Lemonade and The Audreys.

All the acts delivered though, and I could name-check them all. Also great seeing so many local acts performing this year including Tim Tonkin and Andrea Soler (a beautiful duo) and The Hoochers, who totally rocked the Bowlo.

All the music over the three days was magnificent, as was the crowd, as always. Such a relaxed festival and music immersion, a common comment among all the attendees and musicians I have talked to over the last 10 years

is how much they enjoy the laidback feel of the Nimbin Roots Fest.

One thing I missed this year was the vibe of the busking competition, with performers usually dotted around the village competing for a chance to play at the following year's festival, they added a nice vibrancy to the street.

One small bugbear I've had is the lack of staggered set times, especially with the reduction of venues last few years. It's very difficult to catch a decent amount of two acts playing at the exact same time, especially when only a handful play more than once at the festival.

Thanks to Lou and Phil, all their crew over the years especially the sound engineers, supportive locals, volunteers, the always great audiences, and of course the many excellent musicians who have entertained over the years – thanks for the music, many great memories.

Lou and Phil are now going to concentrate on their sister festival, the Mullum Roots Festival that started this year. In 2026 that will be held on 11th and 12th July, with some artists already announced, including Mama Kin Spender, Alex Lloyd, Dave Graney and Lindy Morrison.

See: mullumrootsfest.com



Clockwise from top left: Emily Lubitz, Andrea Soler and Tim Tonkin, Paul Greene, The Hoochers, Dog Trumpet, Mungo Fungo. Photos by Mel Williamson and Chibo Mertineit

Cinema with soul: Nimbin's growing film culture

by David Hyett

For over 50 years, the Nimbin Bush Theatre has quietly nurtured a love of film in the heart of the village.

Housed in the historic Old Nimbin Butter Factory, it's more than a cinema – it's a cultural icon with stories in its walls and a devoted community in its seats.

In the past two months, we've sparked fresh momentum. Our weekly Friday night film and dinner sessions are drawing regulars from Nimbin, The Channon, Lismore and beyond.

With cult favourites, classic gems, and a hearty home-cooked dinner menu, audiences are returning week after week. Movie night wouldn't be complete

without the treats: choc-tops, popcorn and our now-famous sticky date pudding with warm caramel sauce.

A few new initiatives are also making waves:

The Bushies Besties membership is free until 31st December and includes early ticket access, priority seating, voting rights on film selections, surprise perks throughout the year – and even a 'buy a ticket, bring a friend free' deal to help spread the magic of the movies.

And coming soon: plush bean bags to complement our already very comfortable lounge seating arrangement. At the Nimbin Bush Theatre, you're not just watching a movie – you're part of something much bigger.

Email: theatre@nimbinbushtheatre.com
Web: www.nimbinbushtheatre.com

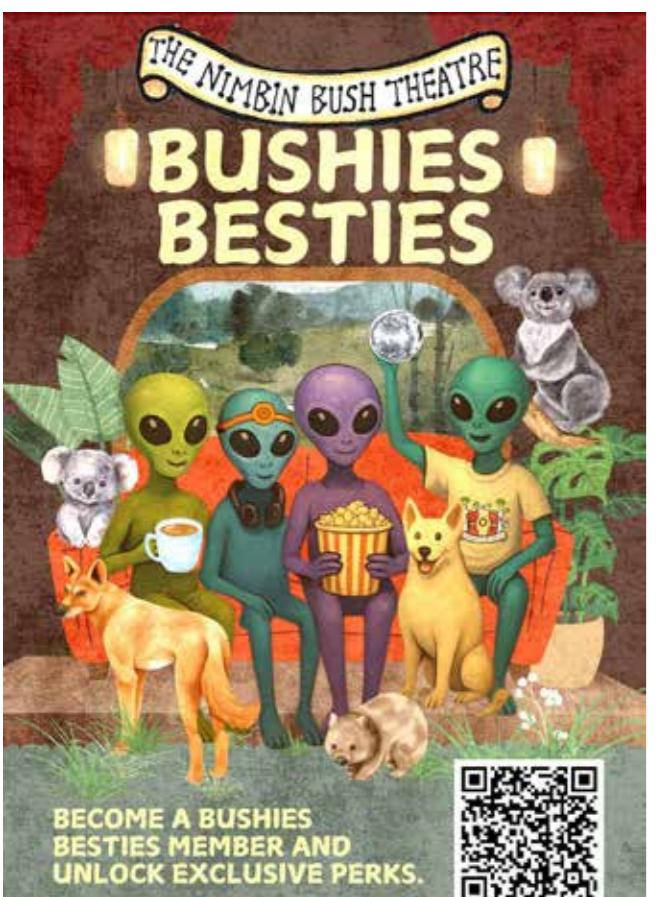
We are working on the return of the

Nimbin Film Festival after many years, with Youth and Open categories for Northern Rivers filmmakers. Expect short films, guest panels, prizes and creative surprises.

We're calling on passionate locals to get involved. If you have skills in film production, event management, tech, or social media – or just love what we're building – we'd love to have you on board.

So whether you're a film buff, a storyteller, or just after a cosy Friday night out, come be part of the revival. At the Nimbin Bush Theatre, you're not just watching a movie – you're part of something much bigger.

Experiences like these open the world of music to young minds, showing that it's not just about learning notes, but



Shivam Rath returns for the World Peace Festival

by Marty de Weerd

Northern Rivers musician Shivam Rath harmonises a busy schedule of fatherhood, gigs and events with a mindful approach to his music and life. When we caught up, he was in Sydney to play at the following year's festival, they added a nice vibrancy to the street.

That momentum has been building for years, ever since Shivam followed the musical and yogic path laid down by his father, a tabla student and seeker who immersed himself in Indian classical traditions in the 70s.

Decades later in Varanasi, Shivam met the same tabla teacher who taught his father and became one of his last students. It was the beginning of a deep dive into Indian rhythm, raga, and the Hindustani slide guitar, including studying intensively under renowned slide guitarist Debashish Bhattacharya, delving into the discipline and depth of Hindustani classical music.

His playing evolved further in the Himalayas, where losing his steel slide unexpectedly sparked a signature innovation: playing with a clear quartz crystal.

Shivam's music now spans

continents and cultures.

He blends Indian classical

production, having completed

his bachelor's degree at SAE

in Byron Bay. He has also

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Give art for Christmas



'Honeypot' by Jenni Rogers



'Blue Bug' by Amanda Bragg



'Botanical Daydreams' by Donna Sharam



'Crow Flying' by Sue Gumley

The gift-giving season is fast approaching, and Nimbin Artists Gallery has put together a focused Christmas Gift Exhibition.

Local participating artists Maureen Whittaker, Leigh Arnold, Jasmine O'Shea, Nathan Dawson, Miss Prissy aka Clare Johnson, Amanda Bragg, Jenni Rogers and Donna Sharam are all well known for high quality artworks.

Their works are specific to this exhibition, with no work over \$300.

– a wonderful opportunity for that special gift, or to treat yourself to your favourite artist.

The gallery also offers a full range of ceramics, bird baths and unique handmade jewellery for other gift ideas.

Remember to shop early, especially as we offer gift wrapping and packaging to withstand the rigours of the postal system or courier service.

Nimbin Artists Gallery is located at

49 Cullen Street, Nimbin, open 7 days a week, 10am-ish to 4pm-ish.

Phone 6689-1444, email: nimbinartistsgallery@gmail.com or see us on Facebook and Instagram.

A big month showcasing local art at Serpentine



'The Boundary between Earth and Sky' by Leslie Ryan



'Autumn 1' by Judith Leuenberger



'Stropharia Caerulea' by Kerrie Knowles



'The Queen' by Paula Laki

November is bursting with colour, texture and creative energy at the Serpentine Gallery in Lismore, with three exhibitions that celebrate local artistry and storytelling in vivid form.

Opening on Friday 7th November, from 5.30 to 8pm, audiences are invited to a double exhibition launch featuring Voices in Colour by the Practising Artists Network (PAN) and Klematite, a solo exhibition by Judith Leuenberger.

Voices in colour

The Practising Artists Network (PAN) brings together a vibrant mix of artists from across the Northern Rivers region – including Lismore, Ballina and Byron Bay – for their new group exhibition, Voices in Colour. The theme celebrates the expressive power of colour.

Through the reference to "voice," PAN artists explore their personal and collective narratives – how colour becomes language, and how each brushstroke or sculpted form speaks its own truth.

The exhibition features works in diverse media, from oils, acrylics and pastels, to ink, ceramic and stone. As a non-profit incorporated association, PAN continues to champion the visual arts in the Northern Rivers through networking, advocacy, and shared creative opportunities.

Voices in Colour is a joyful testament to this community's boundless imagination and its ability to turn pigment into poetry.

Klematite

Alongside PAN's group show, Judith Leuenberger unveils Klematite, a body of work grounded in the ancient Yorkshire craft of rug making – a skill she learned from her grandmother as a child.

Each of Judith's abstract pieces tells a story of family tradition, connection and the cycles of nature. One side of every textile work reveals luxurious, tactile fibres; the reverse transforms into a textural dot painting.

Each piece is created using a palette inspired by the seasons – soft greens and ochres for spring and autumn, cooler blues and whites for winter, and warm, vibrant tones for summer.

Within every work, viewers can trace the gentle motion of natural forces: clouds drifting, water flowing, winds shifting. More of Judith's work can be found at: judithleuenberger.com.au

Both Voices in Colour and Klematite remain on exhibition until Saturday 18th November.

Visual Arts Grad Show

With barely a pause, the gallery then turns its attention to the TAFE Visual Arts Graduation Show, opening Friday 21st November from 5.30 to 8pm.

Each year, this highly anticipated event highlights the emerging talent of Northern Rivers' next generation.

Find us at 104 Conway Street, Lismore.

For bookings and further information contact Marty on 0406-021-897.

Don't miss these exhibitions

by Ali Walker

The current exhibitions at Blue Knob Gallery will continue until Saturday 8th November, so there is still time to come and view both displays.

The Ebb and Flow exhibition reflects a deep love of nature, particularly a fascination with water, echoing the hues and textures of sand and shore, creeks and waterfalls. Inspiration clearly springs from the landscapes around us: the ocean, creeks, and beaches.

Through their diverse interpretations, the artists invite us to glimpse the wonder of the natural world – reflecting a harmonious blend of mediums, artists have captured the gentle pulse of the natural world and in some cases a quirky take on the theme.

The Basketcases exhibition celebrates the remarkable skill, creativity and craftsmanship of a dedicated group of weavers and basket makers who regularly gather to share their passion for traditional and contemporary basketry.

Each piece is a testament to patience, precision, and the intimate connection between maker and material. From vines, reeds, and rushes to grasses and recycled plant materials each piece is thoughtfully chosen for its texture, strength, and flexibility.

Through careful intertwining, coiling, and plaiting, these artists transform humble materials into sculptural forms that are functional and expressive.

The Basketcases are: Elen James, June Martin, Sabina Baltruweit, Lyndall Lee, Brigitte Stievermann, Linnie Laubrechtsen, Fiona and Cherrie Shadwell, aka Weaver Birds.

Blue Knob Cafe – has a great selection of freshly made gourmet toasties, specials, cakes and coffee/drinks. We look forward to seeing you on the cafe verandah for food, art and a great view of Blue Knob.



Top: A selection from The Basketcase-
Above: 'Long Duck Night of the Soul (after Leunig)' by Christine Wynyard

Right: 'Medicine Drum Set' by Linnie Laubrechtsen

Blue Knob Writers Group – meet weekly at Blue Knob Cafe on Sundays from 10am. For more info, contact Alex 6689-7268 or Helen 0487-385-134.

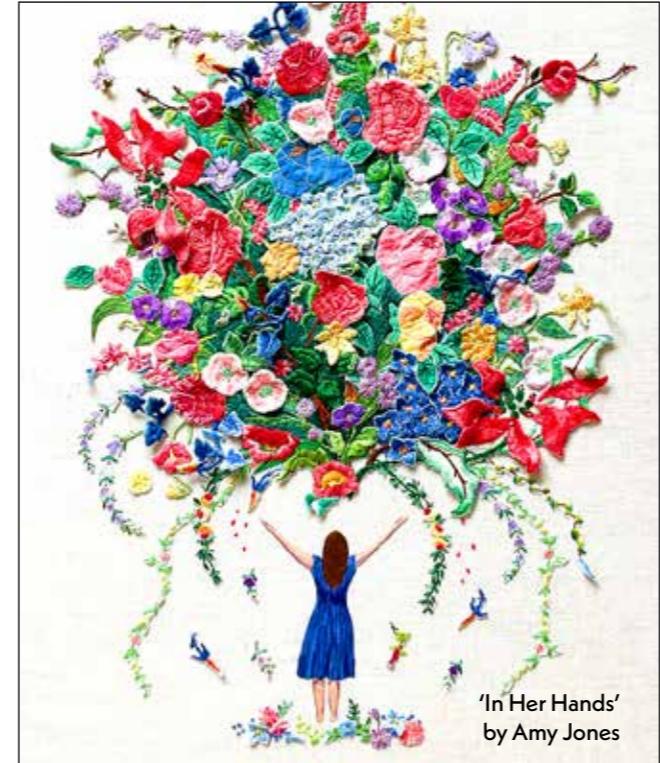
Blue Knob Singers – meet on Thursdays 3.45pm in the Gallery. Everyone is welcome. For more info, call Peter 0458-487-865.

Blue Knob Cafe – has a great selection of freshly made gourmet toasties, specials, cakes and coffee/drinks. We look forward to seeing you on the cafe verandah for food, art and a great view of Blue Knob.

Moore Workshop Space – is available for hire for workshops etc. Please contact the gallery for more information: 6689-7449, email: bbkgallery@iinet.net.au Web: www.blueknobgallery.com

Blue Knob Hall Gallery and Cafe is located at 719 Blue Knob Road, Lillian Rock. Open: Thurs-Fri: 10am-3pm, Sat 8.30am-3pm, Sun 10am-3pm.

Third International Art Textile Biennale



by Kate McGain



'Matrescence' by Kathy Landvogt

and exciting relationships between textiles and other artistic disciplines.

The featured artists employ a vast range of innovative techniques and materials, creating unique pieces that challenge perceptions and continue to evolve what is possible with textile as a medium.

This exhibition is a fantastic opportunity to see traditional and innovative techniques and media used to create fascinating, unique and unusual works, brought to you by Fibre Arts Australia, an organisation that is a vibrant hub for creativity and artistic expression for over 35 years.

Fibre Arts Australia hosts a diverse range of workshops and events across Australia and New Zealand.

They provide individuals to immerse themselves in their creative passions as well as a unique opportunity to work intensively on their craft, while connecting with a community of like-minded individuals.

We'll be hosting a morning tea launch event on Saturday 8th November from 10am and we'd love you to join us.

Roxy Gallery is located at 131 Summerland Way, Kyogle. Opening hours are Wed: 10am-3pm, Thurs: 10am-6pm, Fri-Sat: 10am-3pm, Sun: 10am-1pm.

A TASTE OF ART



Blue Knob Ceramic Studio
Blue Knob Cafe

Gallery & Cafe hours:
Thurs 10am -3pm, Fri 10am -3pm
Sat 8:30am - 3pm, Sun 10am - 3pm
Ceramic Studio: Thurs - Sat 10am - 3pm
Ph: 0266897449 www.blueknobgallery.com

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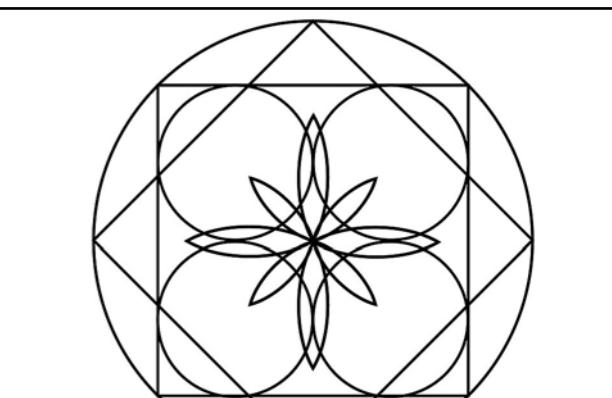
Locally owned and operated 

NIMBIN ARTISTS GALLERY

OPEN DAILY
10am - 4 pm

49 Cullen St, Nimbin

CONTACT: PH 02 6689 1444
www.nimbinartistsgallery.com
nimbinartistsgallery@gmail.com



ROXY GALLERY

131 Summerland Way Kyogle

Open: Wednesday to Saturday 10am - 3pm, Sunday 10am - 2pm

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Go to: www.nimbingoodtimes.com and click away!