

The Dismissal and the Republic

by John Jiggins

In 1999, Australia held a referendum to alter the constitution to transform the Commonwealth of Australia from a constitutional monarchy into a republic by replacing the British monarchy and the Governor-General as heads of state with a President elected by a two-thirds majority of the federal parliament.

The referendum failed, with only 46% of Australians voting for the change.

Much of the momentum to remove the monarchy from the constitution flowed from the outrage over the misuse of the so-called reserve powers of the monarchy in the sacking of the Whitlam government by Governor-General John Kerr in 1975.

For decades, the narrative about the Dismissal was that Governor-General Kerr acted alone. The Palace maintained the Queen was not involved. This deception was exposed by historian Professor Jenny Hocking when she won a High Court Appeal in 2022 for the release of the Palace Letters – Kerr's correspondence with Buckingham Palace – which revealed the involvement of Queen Elizabeth, our current King Charles, and the Palace in this tumultuous affair.

The Palace Letters confirmed that the Queen through her private secretary, Sir Martin Charteris, discussed the possible dismissal of the government with the Governor-General and advised him on the use of so-called 'reserve powers' to dismiss a democratically elected Government, against the advice of both the Australian solicitor-general and attorney-general.

When the letters were released in July 2020, the then Opposition Leader, Anthony Albanese, called the Dismissal an event that defined his generation. "The Whitlam government transformed Australia into the modern vibrant community that we see here today," he proudly recalled.

"But I want to say this, that the actions of the Governor-General on 11th November to dismiss a government, to put himself above the Australian people, is one that reinforces the need for us to have an Australian head of state."

"The fact that we have waited 45 years for correspondence between the Queen and the Palace and the Governor-General in Australia says that there is something very wrong with our structures of government."

Standing beside Albanese that day was the Shadow Assistant Minister for the Republic, Matt Thistlethwaite, who congratulated Professor Jenny Hocking for her decade-long campaign to uncover the contents of these important documents about the most significant political upheaval in Australia's history.

He said, "The uncovering of these documents today highlights the fact that in the future, Australia must begin a mature and serious discussion about our future constitutional arrangements with a view to having a serious discussion about amending our constitution to finally appoint an Australian as our head of state."

In 2023, Anthony Albanese became Prime Minister and Matt Thistlethwaite became Minister for the Republic. When Queen Elizabeth died later that year, Albanese announced he would not pursue constitutional change in his first term.

In the second Albanese government, the position of Minister for the Republic was abolished.

Greg Barns, the national campaign director for the Yes campaign in the 1999 republic referendum, said, "There's no doubt that Buckingham Palace knew. There was correspondence with Prince Charles in which our current King congratulated Kerr on what he'd done."

Barns criticised Kerr for his dishonesty, his deception and his secrecy. As Governor-General, Kerr's duty was to consult with his Prime Minister, and he should have informed him about plans to dismiss the Government.

Instead, Kerr pretended he was following Whitlam's plans to resolve the conflict over the blocking of supply by the Senate by holding a half-Senate election, while covertly negotiating with the opposition and the Palace to replace the Whitlam government.

"It was taking him (Whitlam) by surprise, which is the most egregious action on the part of Kerr," Greg Barns said.

"In refusing to accept the Prime Minister's request for a half Senate election, Kerr again showed that he was disrespectful and not taking the advice of his Prime Minister as is traditional. It is a demonstrable argument in favour of a republic."

Albanese has said that he's not going to have another referendum but he said the previous day that a republic was inevitable. "But he needs to act on it," Barnes said, "and what he needs to do is getting the support of those on the other side of politics who do support a republic."

Barns said that most Liberal premiers and leaders support a republic, and becoming a republic was not a huge change.

"This lie of the monarchy that it is expensive, unnecessary and will lead to instability is just nonsense," he said. "All you're doing is replacing the Queen's representative with an impartial president."

"It will lead to no change in the political culture of Australia, except we won't be doffing our hats to the British monarchy."

Brisbane's radical radio

Review by Kitty van Vuuren

Associate Professor Heather Anderson's latest book, *People Powered Radio*, is a wonderful tribute to the thousands of volunteers, workers and supporters who have contributed to Brisbane community radio station, 4ZZZ, which celebrated its 50th birthday in December.

A 4ZZZ volunteer since 1990, Anderson earned her doctorate with a study of prisoner radio in Australia and beyond (*Raising the Civil Dead*, published 2012).

As a 4ZZZ participant and observer, she presents this rich and engaging history from the perspective of the first person: her eye-witness accounts and personal anecdotes give life to the people, events and issues that have defined 4ZZZ's causes, culture and community.

The book is divided into three parts: 'Home Is Where The Heart Is' looks at 4ZZZ's origins emerging out of the Whitlam government's media policies that put community broadcasting on the new FM frequency spectrum.

These were the heady days of the peace movement, anti-nuclear and environmental actions; Aboriginal, worker, women and queer rights; and a progressive music industry that brought like-minded people together.

This part covers the station's do-it-yourself technical, organisational, financial and ideological orientations. It covers 4ZZZ's occupation of, and controversial eviction from its premises at the University of Queensland, and its eventual move to its current premises 'Zed Towers,' the former Communist Party of Australia headquarters on Barry Parade, Fortitude Valley.

To me, Anderson's account of 4ZZZ's genesis – its initial rejection of hierarchy, and adoption of consensus decision-making (Chapter 3) – is of particular interest. Community radio structures, processes and ideologies can empower volunteers to participate in democratic and fair decision-making.

'Collective' approaches practised during 4ZZZ's early days can work extremely well in small tightly-knit groups, but when organisations grow larger they require more formal representative structures to encourage fairness and membership participation.

Anderson's interviews demonstrate that 4ZZZ's 'Collective' generated mixed feelings amongst its volunteers – loved by many, loathed by others. By the mid '90s the station revisited its legal obligations to have an active Board of Directors, which still stands today.

The station also rotates through its office bearers, thereby building collective strength and resilience based on volunteers' shared experiences, knowledge and practices, particularly during emergencies. In this way, the station maintains its ideological orientation and a shared culture of support that can be passed on to the station's future custodians.

Anderson's description of the police raid – comprising 60 officers, Public Response Safety Officers, horses, dogs and military police – suggests this was a pre-mediated exercise. Attended by some 8,000 patrons lining up to see 30 bands, 4ZZZ's Market Day was a convenient target.

The incident followed the state election earlier in 1996 that returned a conservative Qld National Party government, unseated by the Labor party seven years earlier (who had been in opposition for 32 years) after the Fitzgerald Inquiry exposed corruption in the Qld Police Force and political abuse of power that resulted in the jailing of three conservative ministers and the Qld Police Commissioner.

Gigs, such as the Joint Efforts' held at the University of Queensland's refectory, benefited the station, and the performers, audiences and volunteers. They supported

local record stores, and encouraged other independent music venues opening across Brisbane and the Gold Coast. In the words of one volunteer, the venues "were places where people felt like being part of a community."

Chapter 8, 'Market Dazed', turns to 1990s 4ZZZ generation, when Joint Efforts gave way to Market Days as the major fundraising event. Anderson details the places and people – performers, volunteers, and supporters – that suggest a vibrant and exciting time ahead as the station settled into its new premises at Fortitude Valley.

However, station's gigs have also attracted police surveillance. 4ZZZ has firmly and consistently been at

4ZZZ's first feminist program,

Through the Looking Glass, commenced in January 1976. It played only women's music and focused on arts, literature, children, sexuality, abortion (then illegal), etc. In 1979 the program won the Australian FM Radio Award for Best Community Service Program.

Feminist programs not only addressed gender, power and violence more generally, but also encouraged greater acceptance within 4ZZZ, especially among male volunteers. The current women's program, Megaherzz, also gave rise to a newer program, Transmission, representing the transgender community.

4ZZZ has supported Queer broadcasting since inception (when homosexuality was a criminal offence), and continues today, including syndication of its program, Dykes on Mykes, to Joy-FM in Melbourne.

Coverage of First Nation issues also date back to the station's inception. During 4ZZZ's first week of broadcasting, the station presented a story about a land rights conference held in Cairns.

Aboriginal participation at 4ZZZ increased over the years, and 4ZZZ worked closely with the Indigenous community during Brisbane's 1982 Commonwealth Games to put land rights on the public agenda.

This Market Day in 1996, held at West End's Musgrave Park, promised to be problem-free: 4ZZZ had the necessary permits, and contacted local police, fenced off the site and hired private security services.

Anderson was the event's volunteer stage co-ordinator at the time. As a thunderstorm approached, she witnessed first-hand the arrival of a mass of police who made some 90 arrests and forced patrons and volunteers to clear the park.

She witnessed excessive force used by police, panic among patrons being chased by mounted police, and confusion among 4ZZZ staff because there had been no signs of violence.

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In response to the police raid, 4ZZZ's on-air appeal urged listeners who had attended the market day to gather

witness statements. While 4ZZZ received much community support, their submissions of allegations of police violence submitted to the Criminal Justice Commission were disregarded.

The Commission's findings aligned with police versions of the event, further supported by mainstream media's coverage of the incident. (Mobile phones were still a few years away, so there was no footage of the police raid.)

Part 3, 'Without Community There is No Soul', concludes this history with a focus on some of the interest groups supported by 4ZZZ since 1976, including First Nations, LGBTIQ and women, as well as more recent additions such as an accessibility program.

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Summer holidays: An ecological disaster

by Scott O'Keeffe, Ecologist

What's black and red and flat all over? The two billion plus vertebrates lying dead on the world's roads.

The actual number is much higher: two billion is an estimate based on counts by dedicated observers. Of the dead, 61% are mammals, 21% amphibians, 10% reptiles, and 8% are birds.

In Australia at least 10 million vertebrates are killed annually on our roads. The body count is 81% mammals, 9% birds, 4.9% reptiles, and .025% amphibians. These are the cuddles and the cute. Heaven knows how many worms and insects are despatched every year.

Most of us have some understanding of the impact that roads have on individual species. The species we find attractive, quirky or familiar are the ones we know most about. Koalas, for example, are well studied. Research shows a general decline in their overall population. It shows that some specific populations may become extinct as a result of vehicle collisions.

Such a decline is tragic for koalas; all the more so if we consider how this might affect the ecosystems of which koalas are a part. The same is true of many other native animals. As they decline or disappear, the ecosystems that support them change. If they are apex predators or keystone species, the changes are likely to be dramatic.

For example, Australia has four species of quoll (*Dasyurus*). The Tasmanian devil is a closely related species. These are marsupial carnivores that are apex predators in the ecosystems where they are found. They are the peak of the food pyramid.

Populations of all four Quoll species and the Tasmanian devil are declining. Road trauma is a major contributor to this decline and a serious extinction risk factor. Any change in the abundance of quolls will profoundly influence the populations of their prey and other organisms in their shared ecosystems.

Declining populations of these apex predators can result in an increase in invasive species. Feral cats and rabbits, for example, are suppressed by the presence of



An abundance of road-killed animals is transforming the feeding behaviour of Wedge-tailed Eagles in arid areas. Their flocking and scavenging behaviour has become vulture-like.

Photo: John Robert McPherson

quolls, by competition in the case of cats, and predation in rabbits.

An increase in feral cats can result in the decline of small native vertebrates. An increase in rabbits can dramatically alter native vegetation across whole landscapes. If you look at the scientific literature, you'll see these kinds of impacts described as 'trophic cascades'. Entire ecosystems are profoundly altered by animal road mortality.

Wildlife research clearly shows that for koalas and quolls roadkill is a major contributor to local extinctions and wider population viability. Modelling indicates that some populations cannot persist with current roadkill rates.

Persistence of these populations is doubtful without active mitigation and immigration from other populations.

An abundance of roadkill can also change the behaviour of some species. A variety of native fauna now make use of roadkill as a food source and appear to benefit significantly. Crows, ravens and butcher birds, for example, make heavy use of the roadside diner.

They congregate on roadsides where they consume carrion that might otherwise be unavailable.

Some species become dependent upon roadside carrion and change

their behaviour significantly to take full advantage. This can potentially have whole ecosystem consequences, especially where an apex predator changes its behaviour. Wedge-tailed Eagles are an example of this.

'Wedges' are essentially predators that hunt, even though they sometimes scavenge. Typically, they are solitary or found in pairs.

Their prey is varied. As an apex predator, wedges can be important in maintaining ecosystem stability.

Rabbits are an important part of the diet for some eagle populations. In these populations, wedges reduce the serious impacts grazing rabbits have on native vegetation.

Up to this point I've mostly discussed the ecological impacts of road trauma on animals. I don't think I have ever heard any discussion of the impacts roadkill has on vegetation or soils. But this is definitely a 'thing'.

Studies carried out in many different climates and ecosystems show that carcasses (usually referred to as 'cadavers' in the literature) are significant sources of plant nutrients and moisture.

Vehicles of all types kill animals, but the scale of wildlife road trauma has dramatically increased with the proliferation of enormous road trains. These speed along outback roads without stopping for animals in their path.

As a consequence, many arid areas have an abundant, reliable source of carnivore food where

scarcity was previously typical.

In the outback, groups of up to 40 eagles gather to feed at large carcasses or where there are multiple road kills. Remarkably, the eagles tolerate each other.

Studies show that juvenile birds are especially likely to adopt scavenging behaviour.

This suggests that juvenile birds will become more dependent upon carrion, and less capable of active hunting. We may be seeing a predominantly solitary hunting carnivore becoming a gregarious scavenger. Wedges may be filling a niche occupied in other ecosystems by vultures.

On Australian roadsides, these nutrient corridors might facilitate the spread of weedy species, including some that are highly invasive and environmentally damaging.

Most of the discussion about wildlife roadkill understandably focusses on individual highly charismatic species. But we're ignoring a lot of ecologically important species and failing to address the whole ecosystem consequences of road trauma.

If you're battling road traffic over the holidays, shed a few tears for the koalas and quolls that are dying. Think about what this means for the ecosystems they are a part of.

Then ask when last was there a sighting of the two-metre long Giant Tamborine Mountain Earthworm (*Digaster longmani*). Look it up!

Clarence Catchment Alliance delivers anti-mining dossier

by Shae Fleming, CCA Co-ordinator

In August 2025, the Clarence Catchment Alliance travelled to Sydney and delivered a comprehensive 120-page evidence dossier to the NSW ministers responsible, in Parliament.

It set out clear, lawful actions available to protect the Clarence Catchment from mineral exploration and mining.

That evidence covered flood risk, drinking water contamination pathways, threatened species, cultural impacts, landholder testimony and economic risk.

The Alliance, since then, has deliberately held back from media engagement to allow time for considered government responses.

Those responses have now arrived... or, in one case, not arrived at all.

Why this matters now

- One key minister has not responded at all
- The other has issued a generic, framework-based reply that does not address the Clarence Catchment-specific evidence or requests.
- This comes despite the Clarence Catchment drinking water catchment being recognised by the NSW
- The implications of

Government as the highest flood-risk region in the state, and despite recent antimony detection in the Clarence-Coffs drinking water system.

What's in the dossier?

- A clear explanation of what the Alliance asked Government to do... and why
- The four specific, lawful actions requested under existing NSW planning and mining laws
- Why "it's only exploration" is not a risk-management answer in a flood-prone drinking water catchment
- The implications of



Clarence Catchment Alliance delegation in Parliament House, Sydney on 5th August with Richie Williamson MP, Member for Clarence, who is a strong supporter of the CCA.

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Tin mining dangers

by Kaali King

Few of us know that tin is one of the fastest growing rare-earth mineral commodities in 2025, outstripping lithium, cobalt, silver and graphite.

Demand for electronics and EVs, all of which use tin solder (48% of the global tin market) is fuelling the boom.

Myanmar and Malaysia's recent blanket-ban on tin mining (due to environmental toxicity in waterways and on agricultural land), has tin prices sky-rocketing and as global reserves dwindle, there is a perfect storm brewing.

With bipartisan support from State and Federal governments, First Tin's tin mine at Taronga plans to come on-line at Emmaville, north-west of Glen Innes, in 2027.

Recent Federal government reforms to *The Environmental Protection & Biodiversity Conservation (EPBC) Act* will fast-track critical mineral extraction, by-passing important environmental protections and safeguards, and it speaks volumes to the current situation.

As it stands, the Environmental Protection Authority, NSW Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water, Heritage NSW and the Department of Primary Industries and Regional Planning state the project doesn't address the issues of water, monitoring, locations of tailing areas, mitigation of dust or heritage evaluation. Insufficient information is available for these agencies to make recommendations or apply approvals.

Still, this mine plans to be active in 2027. Taronga is little more than 20kms away as the crow flies.

Taronga Tin Mine landholdings (700 hectares) are on the southern reach of the Beardy River, which is a major headwater tributary flowing into the Murray-Darling Basin via several large river systems.

There are two deep, open-cut pits, approximately 2.6 km long strike, up to 260m wide and 150m-190m deep, covering approximately 52 hectares collectively. They will be operating 24 hours a day, 7 days a week for up to 10 years.

The disturbance footprint of the project is approximately 315 hectares. Further tin extraction points are proposed all around the sleepy historic village of Emmaville, to form a 'hub and spoke' approach meaning this project is likely to turn the area into a vast tin mining district.

Most of the discussion about wildlife roadkill understandably focusses on individual highly charismatic species. But we're ignoring a lot of ecologically important species and failing to address the whole ecosystem consequences of road trauma.

If you're battling road traffic over the holidays, shed a few tears for the koalas and quolls that are dying. Think about what this means for the ecosystems they are a part of.

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Image courtesy International Tin Association

ridge to the 'crystal mine'. This mine wasn't originally for crystal hunting. It comprised of a few blast holes in rocky outcrops created by pioneers a hundred years ago. They were searching for tin.

Taronga is little more than 20kms away as the crow flies. To say that water is a premium on the Granite Belt is a vast understatement. Unfortunately, tin mining is notoriously water-dependant. Dust suppression and extraction use copious water.

First Tin claims they'll source and recycle water sourced at Taronga, but can't confirm where the reservoirs are, or their capacity. Maps freely available on the project proposal don't indicate any water reserves onsite, so where do they plan to get the water?

Tin isn't toxic, but the by-products created during the mining process certainly are.

Tailings and dust plumes can contain arsenic, lead, zinc, copper, chromium, cadmium, nickel and manganese, as well as radioactive materials.

Processing can leave behind sulphuric acid, cyanide, and petroleum byproducts. Acid and metalliferous drainage can occur when certain metal-rich rocks react with oxygen, which is a serious environmental concern.

Submissions against the mine opened on 7th October and were closed on 4th November last year, but no residents downstream on the Beardy River were given notice of the proposal.

Considering the northern mine proposal is two kilometres away from the Beardy River, this is a gross oversight by First Tin.

Information on the NSW government planning portal is confusing and hard to decipher, meaning for those who did receive notice, gleaning the correct picture out of the documents is complicated. The relevant information is only available on-line, creating further inequity for rural and remote stakeholders.

Perhaps First Tin are confident that fulfilling the recommendations set down by EPBC won't be required at all; and without environmental monitoring, what hope does Omshalom, or any of the farming communities downstream, have of recourse or responsible, monitored mining activities?

My heart sinks for that beautiful land that grew me up. What really scares me is what this project means for critical resource mining regionally; because if environmental concerns aren't properly considered when it comes to mining and extraction at Taronga, it sets a precedent for future projects throughout NSW.

The big question is, with so many critical minerals project beginning to come on-line in NSW, will there be enough people asking the important questions to safeguard the environmental integrity of the region's precious water and land?

Further reading about this project can be found at: www.planningportal.nsw.gov.au/major-projects/projects/taronga-tin-mine and at: <https://epcpublicportal.environment.gov.au/all-referrals/project-referral-summary/?id=92f02be2-ba65-f011-bec3-000d3aca90600>

were rehabilitated and released back to the wild. Unfortunately, 80% of koalas hit by vehicles last year did not survive the impact.

Our statistics show that there has been a 15% increase in the number of koalas admitted to our Northern Rivers Koala Hospital as a result of car strikes compared to the previous year.

In 2023 in a single week six koalas died from vehicle strikes. Between June and December 2022, Friends of the Koala were called to 42 car strikes across the Northern Rivers region. This is devastating and avoidable.

Nobody wants to hit a koala, and there are a number of ways to lower your chances of colliding with one. Being attentive to the road is key. Consider if you are driving through koala habitat. Are there warning signs and what is the speed limit?

Just by reducing your speed, you can lower the incidence of car hits, reduce the severity of injuries and increase likelihood that the koala survives. Are you driving at dawn, dusk and in the first few hours after darkness?

Country roads often have no lights so visibility is reduced, however if the koala is facing you, you may see their eyes glowing. Protect koalas from car hits.

Slow down. Be attentive. Save lives.

Protect koalas from car hits

by Friends of the Koala

Car hits are one of the major threats to Koalas in the Northern Rivers of NSW.

Vehicle strikes happen all year round but particularly during breeding season between June and December when adult male koalas are moving in search of a mate and whilst the previous year's juveniles are dispersing.

If you see what appears to be a sick or injured koala, it is crucial that you call our 24/7 emergency hotline immediately on 02 6622-1233.

Be proactive. Save the hotline phone number 02-6622-1233 and report every koala you see close to, or on a road immediately

What to do if a collision occurs

If you have struck a koala, or you see a koala by the side of the road, make sure to pull in safely and call us, whether the koala appears healthy, injured or dead.

Do not touch or try to transport koalas yourself as this could pose a significant risk to their health and safety, and yours. If you can, stay with the animal until a rescuer attends.



Lillian was hit by a car, injuring her spine and sacrum and initially causing paralysis of her hind legs.

If you cannot stay, try to be as exact as possible about the location: specific addresses, GPS points or landmarks are

incredibly helpful. Between May 2023 and May 2024, 71 koalas were hit by vehicles, of which just 13

JANUARY 2026

LOCAL GIGS

PLANET MUSIC



07 JAN	Not Quite Folk Open Mic Night	WEDNESDAY
08 JAN	Vanlife Comedy	THURSDAY
09 JAN	Yolan, DJ Spex	FRIDAY
10 JAN	IV, Catpiss, Ten Pack Screwdriver	SATURDAY
10 JAN	Blah Bar Lismore	SATURDAY
10 JAN	Rochelle Lees Band	SATURDAY
11 JAN	Slim Pickins	SUNDAY
13 JAN	Johnny Fritz, Josh Hedley, Chris Acker	TUESDAY
14 JAN	Monthly Irish Folk Jam	WEDNESDAY
14 JAN	Open Mic Night	WEDNESDAY
14 JAN	Open Mic Night	WEDNESDAY
15 JAN	The Ocelots	THURSDAY
16 JAN	Adam Hourigan, DJ Lazy Dom	FRIDAY
16 JAN	Private Wives, Deadcrow, Hooch + More	FRIDAY
16 JAN	Nooriyah	FRIDAY
17 JAN	Sabotage Band	SATURDAY
22 JAN	Monthly Bluegrass Jam	THURSDAY
23 JAN	Emmy Hour, Dahlia, Pippin	FRIDAY
23 JAN	Luke Vassella, DJ Spex	FRIDAY
24 JAN	Hachiku, Lucy's House, Nazare, Zam	SATURDAY
24 JAN	Tubed Radio Band	SATURDAY
25 JAN	Child, Valhalla Lights, Couch Wizard	SUNDAY
26 JAN	Cath Slimes Band	MONDAY
30 JAN	Adam Gardiner, DJ Lazy Dom	FRIDAY
31 JAN	Operation Ibis, HDM + More	SATURDAY
31 JAN	Push Band	SATURDAY

Submit Gigs to gigguide@planetmusic.com.au
to be featured on our weekly guide on Instagram!

On stage at Woodford



Peace in practice – A new year at Flourish Sanctuary

by Jagad Samuel

This year's World Peace Festival at Flourish Sanctuary has had a start none of us could have predicted.

The Festival was held in the immediate aftermath of the Bondi tragedy, an act of violence that shook the nation and rippled deeply through our collective nervous system.

Rather than feeling abstract or idealistic, the theme of peace has become immediate and embodied. It asked something of us, not as a slogan or belief, but as a lived practice.

How do we remain human in moments of fear? How do we respond to violence without amplifying it? How do we hold grief without turning away from one another?

Special thanks must go to LJ and Tiana, who travelled all the way from California to support the Festival.

They arrived with open hearts and immediately became part of the backbone of Flourish, helping wherever needed, often behind the scenes, and always with good humour and generosity.

Their willingness to cross oceans to serve a gathering dedicated to peace reminded us that this work truly transcends borders.

A New Year, a fresh beginning

With the Festival complete, Flourish Sanctuary now turns gently toward the year ahead.

There is a sense of renewal in the air – not rushed, not forced, but grounded.

I have recently returned from a silent meditation retreat, bringing back a renewed commitment to simplicity, depth and steady practice. Silence, once again, is informing sound.

As always, Flourish continues to offer



Baba Ji and Jagad during a Puja Ceremony at Flourish Sanctuary

regular weekly programs that support inner work, community connection, and care for the land.

Weekly offerings at Flourish

- **Monday Morning Meditation**

– 10.30am to 12pm. A quiet, welcoming space to settle the mind, soften the body, and return to centre. Suitable for beginners and experienced meditators alike.

- **Wednesday Morning Garden with Bodhi**

– 9am to 12pm. Hands-on, practical permaculture in action.

These mornings are about learning through doing – working with soil, plants, and natural systems while cultivating patience, awareness, and respect for the land.

- **Wednesday Afternoon Beginner Mandarin & Tao Teachings**

– 4pm to 5.30pm. Mandarin & Tao Teachings –

NIMBIN BUSH THEATRE

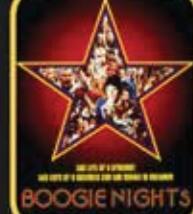
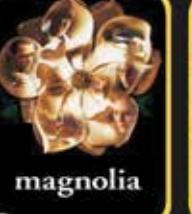


TICKETS



6:00pm Kitchen opens | 7:30pm Film starts | \$15 / \$12

Movies

		
Boogie Nights (R18+) 2/01/2026	Magnolia (MA15+) 9/01/2026	Once Upon a Time in Hollywood (MA15+) 16/01/2026
		
A Minecraft Movie (PG) 18/01/2026 *SUNDAY SPECIAL*	The Men Who Stare at Goats (M) 23/01/2026	The Prestige (M) 30/01/2026

VENUE HIRE

Looking for a unique venue surrounded by nature? The Nimbin Bush Theatre is ideal for private parties, weddings and ceremonies, workshops, film nights, and community events. Facilities include an indoor theatre, outdoor space, lush gardens, kitchen, café, and more. Contact: theatre@nimbinbushtheatre.com | 0476 008 278

The Nimbin GoodTimes

Rainbow Region Property Guide

Lifestyle retreat with two residences and spectacular views

442 Blue Knob Road, Blue Knob

5 Bed 2 Bath 3 Car 120 Acres

\$1,440,000 - \$1490,000

In the rolling green hills of the Rainbow Region, where the air is fresh and the views stretch to eternity, a truly exceptional property has come to market.

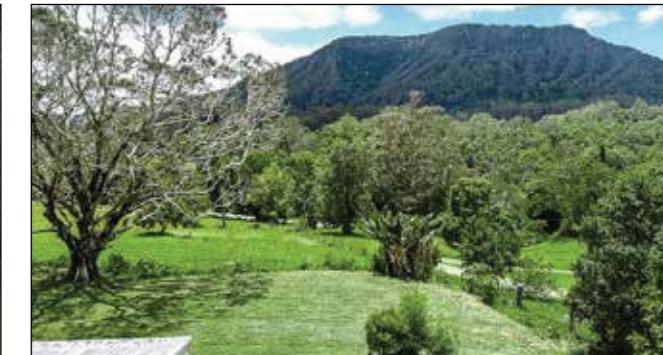
Nestled on 120 acres overlooking the iconic Blue Knob, 442 Blue Knob Road offers the ultimate escape – a private paradise blending historic charm, modern comfort, and sustainable rural living, just 5km from Nimbin's vibrant village.

Increasingly, buyers from metropolitan areas like Sydney and beyond are discovering the allure of our hinterland, drawn by the promise of space, serenity, and a genuine tree-change lifestyle away from the urban hustle.

The land itself is a dream for hobby farmers or those seeking self-sufficiency: spring-fed dams, a large dam with island and bridge, stockproof fencing, a private swimming hole, and capacity for up to 30 head of cattle.

Solar power, NBN readiness, and abundant water sources

underscore its sustainability. Add convenient touches like school bus at the gate, proximity to Nimbin's cafes and services, and easy access to the Gold Coast – this property delivers lifestyle, productivity, and



Hills2Coast is proudly one of the top listing agencies across the entire Northern Rivers region, with extensive reach and proven results.

Contact agent John Wilcox on 0428-200-288 for your private inspection today. Don't miss this piece of paradise!



NIMBIN HILLS

REAL ESTATE



John
0428 200 288



Jacqui
0439 15 6666



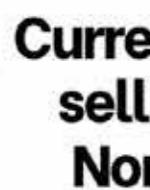
Samara
0429 806 288



Suzy
0429 492 477



Vicki
0409 914 433



Michelle
0489 238 889

FEATURE PROPERTIES

Slice of Heaven!

67 / 265 Martin Road, Larnook

2 Acres

1 1 3

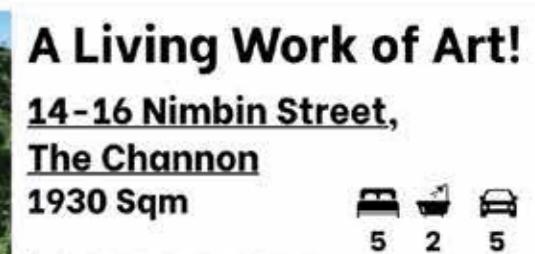
\$399,000 Agent: **Jacqui**



Escape city life with this charming 1-bedroom, 1-bathroom timber home in Billen Cliffs Strata Village. Located on 2 acres, it features a loft, open-plan kitchen/living room, verandah, and outdoor bath. Surrounded by old growth trees and wildlife, the property offers tranquility and rustic charm. Fully off-grid with solar power and a rainwater tank.



On a lush hillside in The Channon Village, this handcrafted basalt home blends creativity, tradition & innovation. With thick stone walls, catenary arches & abundant light, it sits amid gardens, terraces & rainforest. Inside the home is split level creating private spaces, screened verandahs for year round use, fireplaces, a loft with its own private access, studio & 3 bedrooms. Built using ancient techniques, it offers timeless beauty. Additional dwelling opportunity.



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