



Welcome to Lismore Tourism News October/November 2009
This bimonthly newsletter aims to keep you informed of the latest events and opportunities in the local tourism industry.

Lismore Visitor Information Centre (VIC) Update

Lismore VIC Visitor Numbers:

August 2009: 4165 September 2009: 4061

August 2008: 4016 September 2008: 4357

It's been a busy couple of months at the VIC with staff now attending to transport enquiries and bookings plus loads of enquiries and ticket sales for the September Sports events. The Lismore Cup, Festival of Cricket and Masters Games all held in September brought hundreds of visitors to town injecting millions of dollars into the local economy and resulting in a real boon for our local tourism industry.

School Holiday Information Packs

With the QLD and VIC school holidays already in full swing and NSW school holidays commencing this week, our ever-popular school holiday information packs have already been walking out the door! The packs provide invaluable information on family friendly things to do and see around our region during the holidays. If you haven't already contacted us with your holiday events and activities, call the Lismore Visitor Information Centre on **02 6626 0100** or email: tourism@lismore.nsw.gov.au to be included in the holiday packs. Accommodation providers are welcome to include the holiday packs in their room compendiums. Just contact the Visitor Centre staff on the contact details listed above and we'll get them out to you.

Tourism Staff on Tour

Lismore and Nimbin VIC staff took a tour around Lismore this week to keep up to date on the things to do and see around our region. Our day began with a delicious organic morning tea at the colourful and lively Rainbow Region Organic Market. Next up was a tour around South and North Lismore where we discovered a plethora of galleries, antique stores, nurseries and eateries. We checked out the CBD's funky galleries, what East Lismore has to offer both visitors and local families and concluded with Geoffery Hannah's amazing cabinet and the exhibitions of Frances Belle Parker and Hele Ellis at the Lismore Regional Gallery. We had a great day out exploring our city and the positive feedback from our local operators was most appreciated.

Nimbin Visitor Information Centre (VIC) Update

Nimbin VIC Visitor Numbers:

August 2009: 4618 September 2009: 4962

August 2008: 3820 September 2008: 3902

The Nimbin Visitor Centre celebrated our 2nd Birthday in August and we would like to thank everyone who has helped us make the centre such a success in the village. A destination is only as strong as its operators and supporters and we consider ourselves fortunate with the warm, local support we continue to enjoy.



New Team Member at Nimbin VIC

We are happy to welcome our new team member at the Visitor Centre, Renee English. Renee grew up at Tunttable Falls and brings a wealth of local knowledge and a passion for our village and region. She has now finished her initial training and you can expect to see her or talk to her on the phone, every second weekend. Welcome Renee.

Renee is replacing Deborah Turner who has moved to Brisbane. We would like to thank Deborah for being a productive member of the Tourism Team in her 12 months at the Nimbin VIC. Good luck in your future endeavors Deborah...

7 Days Trading

The Nimbin Visitor Information Centre is now open 7 days per week from 10am – 4pm. We thank the Mayor, Councilors and all other members of LCC staff for their continued confidence and support in the services we provide at the VIC here in Nimbin.

Nimbin in the News

Nimbin and surrounds has been receiving positive media attention over the last few months, including a soon to be televised feature in the Channel 7 produced **Sydney Weekender** (Saturdays at 6:30pm). Hosted by Mike Whitney, the story featured the Nimbin Candle Factory, Nimbin village and our surrounding area. **Sydney Weekender** enjoyed the hospitality and an inspirational Art Class with Amanda at Eternity Springs Art Farm, all whilst we were experiencing the recent dust storm. Thankyou Amanda and well done under extreme conditions. The show must go on...

Upcoming Nimbin Events:

Spring Arts Festival

Date: Saturday 3 – Sunday 18 October
Venue: Nimbin School of Arts
Phone: 6689 1577

Nimbin Independent Film Festival

Date: Friday 30 October – Sunday 1 November
Venue: Nimbin School of Arts
Phone: 6689 1825

Blue Moon Cabaret

Date: Saturday 7 November
Venue: Nimbin School of Arts
Phone: 6689 1577

Nimbin Fashion Show

Date: Friday 13 – Saturday 14 November
Venue: Nimbin School of Arts
Phone: 6689 0205



Tourism Opportunities

Northern Rivers Tourism Symposium – 19&20 October 2009

It's just 3 weeks until NRT's inaugural Tourism Symposium on Monday 19 and Tuesday 20 October in Byron Bay. If you haven't registered already, we strongly recommend that you do!! The program has been tailored specifically to meet the needs of our local tourism operators with a strong emphasis on **marketing initiatives** and **business planning**. By sharing ideas and knowledge, we can build a more robust tourism industry for our region that ultimately benefits us all. Full registration for both days costs \$335 (\$295 for NRT members) or \$225 for day only registration. *Remember, conferences and professional development is tax deductible.*

The keynote presentation by Dick Porter is not to be missed! Dick is founder of the STA Travel Group, the world's largest youth, student and budget travel organisation now operating in 75 countries. Since growing up in Perth, Dick has travelled far and wide around the globe and has experienced the highs and lows of the tourism industry. Learn how Dick has innovated to succeed in the cut-throat travel and tourism industry.

For a full program and to register visit <http://ts.e-register.com.au> or for more details, contact conference organiser Renae Denny on **0412 642 688** or renae@rareindigo.com.au

Markets in the City Centre

A three month trial of a new City Centre Market will commence soon pending DA approval from Council. It is proposed that the market be held in Magellan St (between Molesworth and Carrington Sts) initially focussing on organic and fresh local produce. Initial response has exceeded expectation and we look forward to the new positive energy the markets will bring to the City Centre. For further information Contact Stephen Nelson, City Centre Manager on **02 6627 4117**

New Tourism Operators and News

New Shuttle Bus Service to The Channon Markets

Lismore Tourism in partnership with The Channon Craft Markets Inc and Quinn's Buses have launched a new shuttle bus service that will take locals and visitors to The Channon Markets, which are held on the second Sunday of each month.

The service commenced on Sunday the 13th September and will operate for a trial period of 6 months to assess demand.

Picking up from around Lismore and Goonellabah from 9am and departing the markets at 1pm, the shuttle bus only costs \$6 one-way or \$10 return and is certainly a budget-friendly way to experience The Channon Markets.

Timetable information can be received by calling the Lismore Visitor Information Centre on **1300 369 795**. Bookings are essential of this shuttle and can be made by calling Quinn's Buses on **0427 282 138**.

The Spare Room Art Space

Lismore Tourism is delighted to announce the opening of a brand new gallery space in Lismore's CBD. Located right next door to Tommy's Tavern, the Spare Room Artspace exhibits contemporary artwork and is a working studio for friends and practising regional artists Anna Freeman, Cathy Allen and Warwick Wright.

They wanted to create a relaxed, enjoyable environment where locals and visitors can access the work of emerging and established artists. They also offer opportunities for people to expand their knowledge and creativity through various workshop experiences. The Spare Room Artspace is located at 71 Molesworth St, Lismore and is open Tuesday, Thursday and Friday from 10am to 4pm and Saturday from 10am to 2pm. For more details phone **02 6624 7883**.

Crofton's Retreat, Nimbin

Welcome to Christine Howard who has recently opened a new accommodation premises in Nimbin. Crofton's Retreat is a 5 room quality retreat located along beautiful Crofton Rd, about 4kms north of Nimbin, where you can enjoy peace and tranquillity in a comfortable farmstay environment. Each room has its own individual style with ensuite, queen bed, TV, iPod docking station and kitchenette. Experience your stay on a working farm amidst 80 acres of natural bushland and paddocks with hidden gullies and a delightful creek nearby to cool you down on hot summer days. Crofton's Retreat is located at 360 Crofton's Rd, Nimbin. For more details call Christine on **02 6689 0030** or visit **www.croftonsretreat.com.au**

Lismore Café Exhibitions

Lismore Café Exhibitions is a project run by Lismore Tourism in conjunction with Armistead's Gallery and members of Lismore's Café and Culture Trail. The project showcases the works of talented local artists in participating cafés throughout the CBD. The following exhibitions will run until the end of November:

Luv a Coffee – Jane and Yvonne Fenech

Henry's Bakery – Jaylene Fergus

Caddies Coffee – Oct: Rachel Vanela for Lismore Theatre Club; Nov: Patricia Buckland

The Chocolate Bar – Hugh Kellaway and Wendy Ford

Sweet Pea Café – Ildiko Hammond

The Left Bank Café – Located next to the Lismore Regional Gallery

Invercauld House – Amanda Reichelt-Brushett and Peter Harrison



**Lismore Regional Gallery Exhibition****11 Sept – 31 Oct Hele Ellis, Abstract Moves – Lismore Regional Gallery In Galleries 1, 2**

Abstract Moves is a retrospective of Hele Ellis's work, featuring fourteen years of abstract painting explorations and developments, commencing in 1995, when Ellis arrived at Byron Bay Gallery hours: Tuesday – Saturday: 10am – 4pm; Thursday: 10am – 6pm. FREE admission. For further details contact **02 6622 2209** or visit **www.lismoregallery.org**

11 Sept – 31 Oct Geoffrey S. Hannah, Master Craftsman – Lismore Regional Gallery Gallery 3

Geoffrey Hannah is a world leader in the art of fine furniture. Unlike many fine furniture makers, Hannah has not worked on a commission since the mid 1980s, preferring instead to devote himself to major projects, often over a period of several years. Hannah's highest selling work, the Australiana Cabinet, was sold to a Belgian buyer for his private art collection for nearly \$500,000. Hannah recently completed a new work, a cabinet of epic proportions that he has been working on for over 7.5 years. Named in honour of his family, The Hannah Cabinet has 140 drawers, inlaid with various veneers, stones and shell. The work contains 34 fine timbers and veneers, 17 types of stone, and 4 types of shell, and 23CT gold leaf. This work will be on display along with other works that demonstrate Hannah's astounding skill and vision. Gallery hours: Tuesday – Saturday: 10am – 4pm; Thursday: 10am – 6pm. FREE admission. For further details contact **02 6622 2209** or visit **www.lismoregallery.org**

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For further details contact **02 6622 2209** or visit **www.lismoregallery.org**

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Contact the Lismore Visitor Information Centre on **1300 369 795** or email **tourism@lismore.nsw.gov.au**

Lismore Tourism, Cnr Ballina Road & Molesworth Street, Lismore NSW 2480

1300 369 795 www.visitlismore.com.au