

Annual report 2021-2022
THE YEAR IN REVIEW

The NCCI management committee is responsible for valuable and significant community assets – the eight buildings that comprise the Community Centre, Birth & Beyond at 54 Cullen Street and 11a Alternative Way – the site that will become a feature of the Rainbow Road Walking Track. We recently held our AGM and while the same people were elected to the committee there has been a role change as the aged move aside for youth. Dr Wil Polson is now our President, Darren Maxwell our Vice- President and remaining positions are held by Diana Roberts, David Hallett, Michael Balderstone, and Louise Graves. We are a solid team that is facing some significant challenges.

While the previous pandemic afflicted year had significant effects on our income and tenancies, the past year has amplified many of these problems. There have been various requests for rent reductions and special considerations from tenants at a time when our operating costs are rising exponentially. Consequently, major structural improvements have been postponed or cancelled. This is not sustainable into the future so we have embarked on a strategic planning exercise to review our business model, exploring how we can operate more efficiently and reduce our reliance on rental income into the future. Sounds boring? Believe you me, it's not. We have some very difficult decisions to make. To support our efforts we have engaged, free of charge, an external business consultant who brings fresh eyes and experience. Consultation will be key to our decision-making but, at the end of the day, the difficult decisions we must make will rest with the committee.

It's not all doom and gloom. Our achievements include:

- Establishment of a new website and online room booking system (nimbincommunity.org.au).
- Direct involvement in the planning of the Rainbow Road Walking Track. This grant will see development of Aquarius Park – 11a Alternative Way. To assist with maintenance into the future we have established a Landcare group and will be seeking active members sometime next year.
- Grant funding for NAIDOC celebrations and installation of CCTV with the capacity for remote observation in the grounds at 81 Cullen Street (deemed necessary after the theft of all our grounds equipment).
- \$29,000 from developer contributions for the replacement of one of the final stretches of covered walkway within the Community Centre grounds.
- Lismore Council has received significant funding to provide safe pedestrian access from the western car park through to Cullen Street adjoining Birth & Beyond.
- NCCI auspiced funding received for the very successful Nimbin Youth Rocks events and the Creative Koori Wai:bal art project – in train at the Wai:bal Cultural Centre.
- The Chamber of Commerce contributed 50% of funding to the upgrading of the mural above the front windows of the Nimbin Apothecary and the Environment Centre.

- A significant grant application has been submitted to replace the southern side internal and external walls of Birth & Beyond (estimated at \$47,000).
- We have highly committed staff – thank you.

In closing we manage wonderful assets in the growing village of Nimbin. Our tenants provide a wide range of essential services which, without these buildings in community ownership, would possibly not exist. Please feel free to engage with us. We would welcome new, preferably young, management members (sit in on a meeting and see what's involved). If you have spare cash (hahaha) send some our way or, if you have fundraising in your genes, think of us. Season's greetings to everyone. May 2023 be flood, fire and pandemic free and may our community assets continue to flourish.