

2008
MAY
3 & 4

ANNUAL GATHERING SIXTEEN

NimbinMardiGrass.com

CANNABIS LAW REFORM RALLY & PARADE

SUNDAY 2:30PM

PROGRAM
CENTREPAGE



2020

BEYOND PROHIBITION

HEMP ROAD MAP FOR THE FUTURE

GIVE WEED



FOOD | FUEL | FIBRE | MEDICINE | FAITH | FIESTA

WELCOME TO MARDIGRASS

Nimbin's sixteenth consecutive MardiGrass promises to be a genuine protest this year thanks to the Police working overtime lately busting lovers of the sacred herb. Nimbin would be a holy town if it happened to be in the Himalayas! The big difference being that dreadlocked spiritual seekers smoking chillums are revered in India, but arrested in Nimbin.

THREE OF GOD'S MISTAKES

Many hippies spiritual life was awakened by pot and flowered with mushrooms. So it particularly gripes when religious people support the war on drugs. As if God made a mistake with the cannabis plant. In fact, there were three big mistakes in their view, which happen to be the three best pain relieving herbs in the creation. Made illegal last century, the opium poppy, coca and cannabis plants were the most popular pain relievers our ancestors all used before pharmaceuticals came along to monopolise the people's pain management, probably the surest business on the planet.

Who made pot illegal? In a word, businessmen, it was all about money. These days the major lobbyists to keep us all criminals are the jail owners and associated industries, hoteliers of course, the woodchip, cotton and petrochemical industries, and the giant global pharmaceutical companies whose profits would be threatened if we could grow our own aspro in the back yard. And that's exactly what

English scientists recently labelled cannabis, 'the aspirin of the twenty first century'. New research shows it is magically helpful for a broad range of ailments. It also produces in huge amounts, an extraordinary seed high in protein and with an ideal omega 6 and 3 ratio. Also, hemp stalk is high quality fibre ideal for paper and cloth.

What a plant, no wonder American businessmen conspired back in the 1930s to ban marijuana, a word they invented for the law change so that ten thousand hemp farmers had no idea their crop was made illegal overnight. Government attitude and respect for the people has changed little!

That our new prime minister, like the last one, carries on about his Christianity is also part of the same manipulated theatre. Christians are people who live the simple teachings of that pioneering hippy Jesus. In fact 2000 years ago Jesus grew up in a culture where the cannabis plant was grown and used everywhere. The idea of outlawing it would have been sacrilegious and ridiculous. No doubt he got stoned and would march at the front of our Rally.

GROTESQUE ELEPHANT

In Nimbin we did our own cannabis café trial some years ago and many people enjoyed the sanity of being able to purchase a hassle free fair deal until the politically driven police raids ended the peacetime.

So a highlight of this year's MardiGrass is our 'Beyond Prohibition Forum' in the town hall each day and everyone who visits should try for a 'Wodak Moment'. We have invited experts who will present a taxable regulated cannabis supply model and then on Saturday evening everyone can have a say at the People's Drug Summit 2010 (we can't wait for 2020). Its high time Australia had a fresh honest look at its grotesque 'war on drugs', truly the massive elephant in the room no-one wants to notice.

They may have softened on personal cannabis users by issuing cautions but the police treat 'dealers' like serious criminals. Of course ninety-nine percent of users can't grow their own and dealing is obviously better than stealing! We ask that police rethink their attitude and help us to lobby for law change to give them and us more freedom, as has happened in England. In 35 years of police raids on Nimbin they have endlessly lost ground and

respect while many in our community have got criminal records and jail experience at an early age.

There are several models overseas now legalising the supply of cannabis. In Australia, after years of Howard's 1950s style nonsense and big promises from the Labor party, we expected Rudd's government to stand up for our 'minority group', as he promised. So far it seems no-one's game to even raise the issue of the war on drugs. Let us be an elephant he cannot ignore!

GLOBAL ABSURDITY

Also important at MardiGrass is the Industrial Hemp Expo with our very own Keith and Klara at 10.30am each day in Peace Park where you will be amazed at what can be made from hemp. It will give everyone a glimpse of the enormous potential hemp has to help in restoring the planet to a healthy state.

Fortunately NSW Parliament recently announced new legislation allowing larger scale cultivation of industrial hemp in this state, at last in line with other states. However, humans are still not allowed to eat hemp seed in Australia, though it can be used for pet food! Extraordinary in these critical times of world hunger and spiralling food prices.

POLICE OVERKILL

Recent police overkill in Nimbin with Lismore council inspectors in tow have shown how keen they are to make Nimbin as

normal as possible. Will we succumb and become another neutered tourist town with busloads of elderly from the gold coast who aren't even allowed to buy a cookie so they can get a decent night's sleep or a moment's respite from their arthritis? We say the law is the crime and we invite you to join us in protesting the absurdity of it at the big Rally and float competition on Sunday afternoon at 2.30.

Better still, you come for the whole weekend if you can (\$50 gets you a campsite at the Showground and an all weekend pass). There'll be half a dozen stages with music, comedy, poetry and cabaret, and the Hemp Olympix hilarity. But above all else, this is a fiesta with a cause, and a good one.

The war on drugs scarcely touches most of us, living as we do amongst the most spoil and richest on the planet. If you're not in jail, or shot in Thailand, or one of the Americans arrested every forty-six seconds for cannabis, please join us for a weekend with purpose where we guarantee you a good time as well.

SK8PARK CHARITY

Any profits MardiGrass makes this year will go towards getting Nimbin's sk8 park open, so please buy an armband and wear it in memory of our recently departed Plantem Chicken George, and Simon Cass, one of the original MardiGrass visionaries, both great gardeners.



XIII HEMP OLYMPIX
PLANTATHLON
IRONPERSON
BONG THROW
JOINT ROLLING

YOU COULD WIN BLING!

Doctor Alex WODAK
Speaking at MardiGrass '08

Medieval Sects
What else burnt at the stake?

Essential Fatty Acids
What is omega-3?

WHAT'S INSIDE
* 2008 PROGRAM GUIDE
* POT PARTY POLITICS
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* MEDICINAL CANNABIS
* HEMPSEED NUTRITION
* GANJA FAERIE STORIES
* GATEWAY HOLYWEED
* MARDIGRASS AWARDS
* NEW BIG JOINT
...AND MORE!

PEACE PARK SATURDAY 5 PM

DANCE FOR CANNABIS LAW REFORM

MEGA MUSICAL MARDIGRASS
MORE ENTERTAINMENT FROM EIGHT STAGES

HEMP BIO-FUEL
Hurds and seeds make green energy!



CANNABIS CARBON CREDITS
Profiteering from climate change



SUNDAY MAY 4TH 2:30PM

CANNABIS LAW REFORM RALLY & PARADE

BEST FLOAT AWARD
PRIZES will be presented to nominated heads of winning floats in Peace Park after the Rally.

420-VIDEO-COMPETITION
We would like as many video-witnesses as possible to encourage the peace.

SEE BEYOND CANNABIS LAW REFORM. ARE WE THERE YET? 2009 MAY 2 & 3
NimbinMardiGrass.com



Nimbin HEMP Embassy

NIMBIN CANNABIS LAW REFORM RALLY
MardiGrass annual gathering on the first weekend of MAY.

'JUST SAY KNOW' CANNABIS EDUCATION, INFORMATION & PRODUCTS

66891842 www.hempembassy.net



FOOD
FUEL
FIBRE
FANTASY

MEDICINAL



CANNABIS & THE LAW

**UNDER NSW LAW, IT IS AN OFFENCE TO POSSESS, USE, SUPPLY, OR CULTIVATE POT.
IT IS ALSO AN OFFENCE TO POSSESS IMPLEMENTS FOR THE USE OF POT.**



END PROHIBITION

- To alleviate the suffering of the chronically or terminally ill.
- To enhance the environment by replacing environmentally unsound products.
- To reduce avenues of fast cash for terrorists, insurgents, arms traders, and security organisations.
- To reduce the flow of cannabis money to criminal gangs.
- To limit corrupting temptations available to Police, Customs Officials, and Prison Guards
- To drastically reduce Police workload, and free officers to tackle genuine crimes where it is not as easy to gain high arrest rates.
- To remove an avenue for scaremongering by opportunistic politicians and journalists.
- To hopefully lower the price of hemp.
- To put an end to using dogs as a tool of discrimination against a harmless sector of the community.
- To put an end to the marginalisation of cannabis users, indeed to try to put such petty behaviours to rest in many areas of politics.
- To allow people to enjoy a spiritual, relaxing experience - legally

POSSESSION

To be convicted of possession, the police must prove that you had knowledge of the pot and custody or control over it. In other words, there must be proof that: you had the pot in your physical custody (for example, in your pocket or bag), or at least under your control (such as in a locker you have the key to) and, you that knew that you had the pot in your custody or control.

SUPPLY

Supply includes selling, giving away or (technically) sharing pot. Supply also includes being in possession of 300 grams or more of cannabis, which is "deemed" to be for supply. In that case, to avoid a supply conviction, you must prove in court that the possession was for reasons other than supply (for example, personal use).

CULTIVATION

Cultivation means some activity to assist the growing or harvesting of cannabis, such as planting or watering or fertilising. Even growing one seedling is a cultivation offence. The more plants, the higher the penalty. If you are charged with cultivating 250 plants or more, the case must be dealt with in the District Court where higher penalties apply. Less than 250 plants will generally be dealt with in the Local Court.

HYDROPONIC PLANTS

Recent changes to the law have significantly increased the penalties for cultivation of hydroponic plants "for a commercial purpose". [The prosecution do not have to prove commercial purpose for outdoor cultivation.] The new offence category of cultivating cannabis "by enhanced indoor means" has a maximum penalty for 5 or more plants of 15 years jail and a \$385,000 fine (and 20 years for 200 or more hydroponic plants).

COOKIES

Possessing or supplying cannabis cookies or other food with cannabis cooked in it is illegal. Bizarrely perhaps, the drug law strictly treats cookies as if they were pure cannabis. So, because weight determines the nature of the criminal charge, you can be charged with deemed supply if you possess more than 300 grams of cookies, even though you are mostly possessing chocolate and flour and butter. In these situations, the police can and often would charge you only with possession.

IMPLEMENTS

It is illegal to possess a bong, a pipe or other implements for consuming pot. It is only illegal to possess implements for the future use of a prohibited drug. So do not admit to the police that you intended to use the bong or pipe to smoke pot.

IF YOU ARE ARRESTED

You do not have to answer police questions or make a statement, even after you are arrested. Just give your name and address so that bail can be granted. Remember that the police must prove your guilt. Anything you say may make it easier for them to do just that. Generally it is better to say nothing until you have had legal advice.

POLICE CAUTIONS

Police have a discretion to issue cautions (rather than take you to court) on possession or use charges where the amount of pot involved is 15 grams or less, and where you have no prior convictions, you admit guilt and you are not charged with another offence. If you are cautioned twice, you must attend compulsory drug counselling. On the third occasion, the case must go to court.

SEARCH WARRANTS

Police are legally entitled to enter private property if they are invited in by one of the occupiers or if they have a search warrant. A search warrant gives police the power to search anybody found on the premises, to use reasonable force to break open doors and cupboards, and to seize and remove any illegal items discovered.

PERSONAL SEARCHES

The police have the power to search you in a public place, without a warrant, if the police believe on reasonable grounds that you might possess a prohibited drug (or a knife, or evidence of a crime). If the police want to search you, the best general advice is to tell the police you do not consent to a search and ask them to record that you do not consent (so that it is then possible to argue in court that the search was unreasonable). Do not physically resist the search, because that could lead to additional charges.

ROADSIDE TESTING

As well as alcohol breath testing, police have the power to randomly drug test car and truck drivers, although only for cannabis, amphetamine and ecstasy. The testing is by saliva swab, with a screening test at the driver's window. If the initial test indicates positive to THC, amphetamine or ecstasy, you have to give a second swab which is tested in a specially equipped Winnebago drug bus. If that second swab shows positive, the sample is sent to a laboratory for analysis. You do not get arrested, although you are not permitted to drive for 24 hours. You will be sent a court attendance notice after laboratory results have confirmed the presence of the drug.

The maximum penalty for driving with one of these drugs in your system is a \$1,100 fine and 3 months minimum licence disqualification (the same penalty as for low range drink driving). It is an offence to refuse to provide a saliva sample or to fail to stop for a roadside drug test when requested by police. Victorian police have been conducting random roadside drug testing since 2004.



SNIFFER DOGS

Generally speaking, it is legal for police to use sniffer dogs. There is legislation which authorises police use of dogs for "drug detection" in some places (on trains and buses, and on or near railway stations and bus terminals, in licensed premises, at dance parties and music festivals) without a warrant. The same legislation requires the police to obtain a warrant to use sniffer dogs in other situations, for example to conduct random street searches. The police might obtain a warrant to use sniffer dogs on "high visibility" street patrols. The courts have ruled that the action of a police dog sniffing the air near a person does not amount to searching.

PENALTIES

The quantity of drugs involved determines both the maximum penalty for the offence, and whether the case is heard in the Local Court or the District Court. The maximum penalty for use or possession is a fine of \$2,200 and/or 2 years jail. The maximum penalty for supply or cultivation depends on the quantity involved. As an example, the maximum penalty for the supply of 400 grams is a fine of \$11,000 and/or 2 years jail. The maximum penalty for cultivating or possessing 300 plants is a fine of \$385,000 and/or 15 years jail. These are maximum penalties - the actual penalty imposed will usually be considerably less, especially for a first offender. For people with little or no criminal record, the most common penalty for possession of small amounts of pot is a fine of several hundred dollars. For cultivation of a few plants: a fine or a good behaviour bond. If you have more of a record or, if larger quantities are involved, or if you are convicted of supply, you can expect higher penalties.

TAKE CARE

CANNABIS G.S.T?

Australia's illegal cannabis industry is the same financial size as her gold industry, twice the size of her wine industry and three-quarters the size of the nation's beer industry. More Australians consume cannabis than any other illicit drug.

proportion of resources dedicated to drug law enforcement. In addition, compared with most other illicit drug use, cannabis use appears to be associated with a comparatively low rate of crime and harm to other individuals and the community. The decriminalisation of personal cannabis use and production may greatly reduce police and legal resource expenditure. At present, scarce law enforcement resources are currently diverted from the policing of violent crime and ironically, rampant corruption of police was found in two recent state Royal Commissions and linked to unsuccessful attempts to enforce drug laws.

unresponsive to all conventional agents. A health orientated policy would aim to influence the millions of Australians determined to use cannabis to do so in less damaging ways than inhalation of smoke, such as swallowing or inhalation of cannabis vapour.

Pressure is building in many countries, including Australia, for reform of the current expensive, ineffective and often-counterproductive cannabis arrangements. The evidence that cannabis prohibition is the most appropriate means of protecting the public health and welfare of Australia has not been presented.

Dr Alex Wodak, Director, Alcohol & Drug Service, St Vincent's Hospital.

'08 MardiGrass Beyond Prohibition Town Hall Saturday & Sunday.



with an annual turnover estimated to be over \$5 billion. **MARKET SOURCES** The financial cost of cannabis prohibition is unknown, but presumed to be considerable. It is conceivable that cannabis prohibition may have actually increased consumption by guaranteeing extraordinary profits to suppliers.

Under current arrangements, and by choice not chance, this demand is provided entirely from illegal sources. Allowing demand to instead be met from taxed and regulated sources is likely to reduce the harms from cannabis as well as the financial and other costs of cannabis control policies

POLICY PRIORITIES

Even if cannabis consumption were to increase following taxation and regulation, the more critical issue is the net effect of policy on health, social and economic costs of the drug and control policies. Even law enforcement authorities have noted that cannabis offences absorbed a significant

CRIMINAL SANCTIONS for people cultivating, selling or consuming cannabis enjoyed strong community support for many years. Civil penalties are now more generally favoured. One of the major problems with either option is the preservation of a criminal supply source for an industry



"To tell deliberate lies while genuinely believing in them, to forget any fact that has become inconvenient, and then when it becomes necessary again, to draw it back from oblivion for just so long as it is needed..." (George Orwell, "1984")

"They who would give up an essential liberty for safety, deserve neither liberty nor safety" - Benjamin Franklin



420-VIDEO COMPETITION

HEMP BAR
DO YOU HAVE A VISION?

THREE \$420 PRIZES
ONE WINNER FROM EACH CATEGORY

NIMBIN MARDI GRASS 3RD & 4TH MAY 2008
NIMBINTELEVISION.COM

BIG JOINT PARADE
Follow the Parade to Peace Park for the Rally

HEMP OLYMPIX
Catch the action of the events over both days

MUSICAL MARDI GRASS
See live music at Nimbin MardiGrass

CANNABIS LAW REFORM RALLY
SUNDAY MAY 4TH

Gourmet Genie

FRESHLY MADE

- < KEBABS
- < ROAST CHICKEN
- < DEEP FRIED FOOD

Gourmet Genie
MAIN STREET NIMBIN

Legal problem?
See Steve Bolt at

bf
Bolt Findlay
SOLICITORS & MEDIATORS

1/42 Woodlark St Lismore tel: 6621 2188

First appointment FREE if you mention MardiGrass!

Town Hall Information Booth
All MardiGrass Passes
Join the HEMP Party!
Anonymous cannabis survey!

JOIN THE HEMP PARTY

It's more than just about smoking! A vote for HEMP is a vote for a sustainable ecological future!!!



NEW

MEMBERSHIP DRIVE FOR BRAVER HEMP PARTY MEMBERS

Please don't join the HEMP Party unless you are willing to confirm your membership to AEC officials on the phone. If you are un-findable or unwilling to confirm membership, don't join, because it stuffs it up for the rest of us. Sorry, but that's how it works. Please give us as many ways to contact you as possible to make it easier to confirm your membership with the Australian Electoral Commission.

Jest a minute of your **ALLEGED 'CRIME'..** The recreational use of *Cannabis* is only one aspect of Hemp.

ENVIRONMENTALLY, there are agricultural and industrial uses that are very relevant to climate change and ecology. Hemp is a renewable and sustainable annual crop that can be used for fabric, as a mop crop to absorb effluent waste, to make paper without woodchip, and to make compressed fibre building products without woodchip, just to mention a few.

NUTRITIONALLY, hempseed is about 20% complete protein and hempseed oil contains 20% omega-3 and 55% omega-6 polyunsaturated essential fatty acids.

Unfortunately, unlike other countries party to the UN convention on drugs, Australia has not put a framework in place for hemp food products. As a result some hemp food products are being sold in Australia as "animal food" with an explanation of hempseed legal status.

MEDICALLY, there are a range of conditions and treatment side-effects that THC can give relief to, but our conservative politicians want to throw the babies out with the bathwater rather than contemplate the thought.

LEGALLY, some states will now convict you of "Driving with the presence of an illicit drug" if you are found to have cannabis metabolites in your system. There is no issue of "impairment". It does not matter if your driving is unaffected.

SPIRITUALLY, hemp is in legal limbo. All laws regarding sacramental cannabis use contravene international human rights.

POLITICALLY, we are back in the position of the Nineteen Thirties, facing a barrage of false and misleading information and media type-casting. It is a back foot position in a world whose politicians are increasingly obsessed by control issues.

IRONICALLY, Prohibition creates more harms than benefits. We do not believe their disinformation. We would even call for the re-introduction of open government.

SERIOUSLY, join us once again for the anti-prohibition tango in May, where we harmlessly and non-violently stand up for what we do believe, and while we are at it, we have a lot of light hearted fun.

A toke a day, keeps the Doctor away!

Cannabis helps with glaucoma, relieves migraine headaches, helps brain cells, can relieve skin diseases, helps ease asthma attacks, may block epileptic seizures, works as a back spasm medicine, treats depression and other mood disorders, may help emphysema patients to breathe better, alleviates pain associated with chemotherapy, has successfully reduced tumours (benign and malignant), can help multiple sclerosis patients control spasms, can easily be grown organically (free of toxic chemicals), assists in over coming insomnia, dilates the bronchi, to allow more oxygen into the blood, helps paraplegic and quadriplegic patients, may induce antibacterial effects, is the best way known to dry the mouth's saliva in dentistry, relieves the pain of arthritis and rheumatism, alleviates the symptoms of withdrawal from alcohol and narcotics.

Victims of marijuana prohibition lack sufficient political or financial resources

Criminal marijuana enforcement disproportionately impacts citizens by age. According to a 2005 study commissioned by the NORML Foundation, 74 percent of all Americans busted for pot are under age 30, and one out of four are age 18 or younger.

Though these young people suffer the most under our current laws, they lack the financial means and political capital to effectively influence politicians to challenge them. Young people also lack the money to adequately fund the drug law reform movement at a level necessary to adequately represent and protect their interests.

Marijuana enforcement also disproportionately impacts citizens by race. According to NORML's 2005 report, adult African-Americans account for only 12 percent of annual marijuana users, but comprise 23 percent of all marijuana possession arrests in the United States. In some jurisdictions, such as New York City, minorities comprise more than 80 percent of all individuals arrested for pot offenses.

However, despite the law's disproportionate impact on minorities, marijuana law reform is seldom portrayed as a racial equality issue.

The marijuana law reform movement must do a better job of engaging with organizations working toward racial equality to properly convey to politicians and the public that this issue is about racial justice and fundamental fairness.

Additionally, reformers must do a better job allying with organizations that speak on behalf of youth, particularly urban youth — who are most at risk of suffering from the lifetime hardships associated with a marijuana conviction.

Finally, reformers must reach out to the parents of young people and urge them to become active members of the cannabis law reform movement, which needs the majority of parents to join its ranks as both financial contributors and as political advocates in order to gain the political support necessary to bring about a change in the country's pot laws.

MARIJUANA IS DANGEROUS?

Marijuana is very much a danger to the oil companies, alcohol, tobacco industries and a large number of chemical corporations. Various big businesses, with plenty of dollars and influence, have suppressed the truth from the people.

Pot is NOT harmful to the human body or mind. Marijuana does NOT pose a threat to the general public. The truth is if marijuana was utilized for its vast array of commercial products, it would create an industrial atomic bomb! Entrepreneurs have not been educated on the product potential of pot.

The super rich have conspired to spread misinformation about an extremely versatile plant that, if used properly, would ruin their companies.

Where did the word 'marijuana' come from? In the mid 1930s, the M-word was created to tarnish the good image and phenomenal history of the hemp plant...as you will read.

PROFIT & DESIRE

The facts cited here are generally verifiable in the Encyclopaedia Britannica which was printed on hemp paper for 150 years.

* All schoolbooks were made from hemp or flax paper until the 1880s.

* It was LEGAL TO PAY TAXES WITH HEMP in America from 1631 until the early 1800s.

* REFUSING TO GROW HEMP in America during the 17th and 18th Centuries WAS AGAINST THE LAW!

You could be jailed in Virginia for refusing to grow hemp from 1763 to 1769.

* George Washington, Thomas Jefferson and other founding fathers GREW HEMP. Jefferson smuggled hemp seeds from China to France then to America.

* Benjamin Franklin owned one of the first paper mills in America and it processed hemp.

* The War of 1812 was fought over hemp. Napoleon wanted to cut off Moscow's export to England.

* For thousands of years, 90% of all ships' sails and rope were made from hemp.

* The word 'canvas' is Dutch for cannabis.

* 80% of all textiles, fabrics, clothes, linen, drapes, bed sheets, etc. were made from hemp until the 1820s with the introduction of the cotton gin.

* The first Bibles, maps, charts, Betsy Ross's flag, the first drafts of the Declaration of Independence and the Constitution were made from hemp.

* The first crop grown in many states was hemp. 1850 was a peak year for Kentucky producing 40,000 tons. Hemp was the largest cash crop until the 20th Century.

* Oldest known records of hemp farming go back 5000 years in China, although hemp industrialization probably goes back to ancient Egypt.

* Rembrandt, Gainsborough, Van Gogh as well as most early canvas paintings were principally painted on hemp linen.

* In 1916, the U.S. Government predicted that by the 1940s all paper would come from hemp and that no more trees need to be cut down. Government studies report that 1 acre of hemp equals 4.1 acres of trees. Plans were in the works to implement such programs.

* Quality paints and varnishes were made from hemp seed oil until 1937. 58,000 tons of hemp seeds were used in America for paint products in 1935.

* Henry Ford's first Model-T was built to run on hemp gasoline and the CAR ITSELF WAS CONSTRUCTED FROM HEMP! On his large estate, Ford was photographed among his hemp fields. The car, 'grown from the soil,' had hemp plastic panels whose impact strength was 10 times stronger than steel.

* Hemp called 'Billion Dollar Crop.' It was the first time a cash crop had a business potential to exceed a billion dollars in 1938.

* Mechanical Engineering Magazine (Feb. 1938) published an article entitled 'The Most Profitable and Desirable Crop that Can be Grown.' It stated that if hemp was cultivated using modern technology, it would be the single largest agricultural crop in the U.S. and the rest of the world.

ANNUAL AUSSIE GROWERS CUP?

We have a proposal for an annual grower's cup possibly held late June or early July to allow grower's a bit of time post harvest to prepare and select their best.

Organic only? Different Categories? Rules on how to determine categories? What if it's organically grown under lights?

Judging criteria ideas so far include entries and equivalent guests; minimal weight ten grams, no maximum. All unused bud returned to grower, all donations gratefully received! The time and location for a meeting to discuss this idea of an National Aussie Cup is understandably a bit vague but keep your ears to the ground at MardiGrass!!

Hempseed oil is a rich and balanced source of omega-6 and omega-3 polyunsaturated fatty acids (PUFAs). Dietary hempseed oil caused significant changes in plasma fatty acid profiles and improved clinical symptoms of atopic dermatitis. It is suggested that these improvements resulted from the balanced and abundant supply of PUFAs in hempseed oil.

POLICE FOLLY INSPIRES NIMBIN'S OWN MARDIGRASS SUMMIT

"The over zealous policing of the last month has inspired us to hold our very own People's Drug Summit at MardiGrass next Saturday in the evening in the Town Hall from 5 till 7 o'clock. This gives everyone a chance to have a say on how they see the future for cannabis users. Maximum rave length is four minutes and twenty seconds and butcher's paper will be available in the Town Hall during the day on Saturday for people who are too shy to speak publicly or wish to articulate their point of view carefully" said Michael Balderstone, President of the Hemp Embassy, who will host the summit.

We are appalled by the police heavy handed harassment of Nimbin this week. There was virtually no police presence throughout the busy summer period and now in the lead up to our annual MardiGrass weekend, the streets of Nimbin have been like a police training camp. Daily harassment of small time users on the footpath is easy pickings for the police to try and clock up some crime statistics. But, in reality, making absolutely no impact on the drug trade and giving more and more young people criminal records for life.



HEMP HOUSES

USA-CANADA-JAPAN



BUILDING MATERIALS
Hemp produces many times the cellular fibre of trees and is perfect for hemp bricks, concrete framework and particle board, it is very long lasting and highly flexible.



CANNABIS CONSTRUCTIONS

Hemp is a renewable resource that can be grown in about 110 days. Approximately 10 tonnes of hemp hurd or hurd and fibre is needed to build a 135sq house. In good conditions industrial hemp which is planted at a rate of 150-250 seeds per sq m can produce 15 tonnes of fibre per hectare.

A three part research project goal was to prove that hemp masonry was a viable industry for NSW.

The first part consisted of growing field trials of industrial hemp under licence from NSW Dept of Health and NSW Dept of Agriculture in Wollombi NSW to prove that industrial hemp cultivars could be grown in Australian conditions without becoming rogue species. Also to prove that yields were sufficient to warrant further trials.

The second part was in researching existing machinery to provide suitable harvesting and processing options for NSW. Conventional hemp harvesters are heavy, large, expensive and not currently produced in Australia. They are built for broad acre farming and are not suitable for smaller scale use or on sloping land. They also leave the long stems in the field.

On the other hand Ti tree harvesting equipment is available locally, is smaller, can remove chopped green plant quickly from the field and reduce the potential loss to farmers in rainy conditions.

Both harvesting methods were trialled on the Mop Crop with Dr Keith Bolton at Bangalow.

The work undertaken with UNSW was to document and prove over time that when tested in the lab and in a variety of exposed conditions, hemp masonry could meet the building requirements of local councils.

It was also to develop processes that would enable it to be a commercially viable building material on a large scale. Dept of Agriculture had given their assurance to the NSW Govt. Licensed Researchers that commercialisation would occur once there was a value-added product.

As there is no hydraulic lime available in Australia the work involved developing a series of lime based binders for the various uses in mainstream building e.g. internal and external walling, renders etc.

Hemp masonry is a viable and sustainable alternative to many current building materials. Large amounts of carbon are sequestered when the hemp is grown and as a building material it locks up huge volumes of carbon. It produces a long-lasting, breathing building material.

Hemp is a product that requires no kiln baking. This differentiates it from all other masonry products. By comparison with other masonry products it is a very low embodied energy product. While lime production does use energy, this is considerably less than the energy used in producing cement or bricks. Lime is available within a 2 hr radius of the NSW North Coast.

The demonstration hemp wall in the Nimbin Hemp Embassy has been constructed to be a removable wall as it is in a Heritage Building. Under normal circumstances there would be no timber exposed at the base of a wall.

Overseas the hemp masonry is placed on the ground for floors and there are footings around the perimeter of the rooms to support the walls. As the material is lighter than bricks or concrete the footings do not need to be as deep.

In the Suffolk Housing Project hemp masonry footings were used. Loose bricks were included. Overseas, the proportions of hydraulic and hydrated lime in the masonry mix are varied according to the temperatures reached in the region.

Klara Marosszeky INDUSTRIAL HEMP EXPO

Keith is an environmental engineer and his company Ecotechnology Australia designs and constructs on-site sewage treatment systems using wetland technology. In 2004 with the support of Southern Cross University he established the successful 'mop-crop' technology (irrigating crops with effluent using hemp), at the Bangalow Sewage Treatment Plant.

Keith has run workshops in the Northern Rivers region for the past few years to share his knowledge about growing industrial hemp with interested farmers. Several of these farmers will now be putting that knowledge to good use as they come online as NSW's first hemp farmers in the newly commercialising hemp industry.

WORLD HEMP HISTORY

8500 BC: Chinese history tells that hemp was used for fibre, oil, and as medicine.

3727 BC: Cannabis called a "superior" herb in the world's first medical text, Shen Nung's Pen Ts'ao, in China.

2700 BC: The oldest complete human body ever found was wearing a hemp blouse with a silk like quality. The body had been buried by ice for four thousand years, and was exposed by a heat wave.

2000 B.C. - 1400 B.C. Cannabis mentioned in the Atharvaveda (Science of Charms) as "sacred grass". Referred to as bhang or bhanga. The legend of Shiva, Lord of Bhang

1500 BC: Cannabis-using Scythians sweep through Europe and Asia, settle down everywhere, and invent the scythe.

700 B.C. - 600 B.C. The Zoroastrian Zend-Avesta, an ancient Persian religious text of several hundred volumes, and said to have been written by Zarathustra (Zoroaster), refers to bhang as Zoroaster's "good narcotic"

500 BC: Gautama Buddha survives by eating hempseed.

450 BC: Hemp was being cultivated in the middle east for the same purposes as China. Herodotus records Scythians and Thracians as consuming cannabis and making fine linens of hemp.

300 BC: Carthage and Rome struggle for political and commercial power over hemp and spice trade routes in Mediterranean.

100 BC: Paper made from hemp and mulberry is invented in China.

100 AD: Roman surgeon Dioscorides names the plant cannabis sativa and describes various medicinal uses.

Pliny tells of industrial uses and writes a manual on farming hemp.

1762:

In the U.S. the state of Virginia rewarded farmers with bounties for hemp culture and manufacture, and imposed penalties upon those who did not produce it.

George Washington grew hemp for fibre and recreational use, and Thomas Jefferson acquired the first American patent for his hemp break, a device used to separate the hemp stalk into usable hurds and fiber with greater speed than the retting of past.

Without hemp America could not have successfully waged the revolution, and for the next one hundred and fifty years hemp enjoyed the position as America's top cash crop.



Klara Marosszeky

Klara has been involved in the hemp industry since 1999 as an agricultural researcher and in late 2000 she began working with UNSW to develop hemp masonry products for the commercial market. Her goal is to introduce affordable hemp masonry products to the mainstream construction industry.

Currently the construction industry contributes huge amounts of greenhouse gas emissions into the atmosphere. Industrial hemp which sequesters high levels of carbon while it is growing, forms a durable masonry material when it is combined with lime based binders. Buildings constructed from hemp masonry lock up that carbon.

Hemp masonry has been around for a long time with remnants of ancient hemp constructions still in existence today in France. Currently there is a worldwide interest in hemp masonry both because it's a building material made from a fast growing renewable resource and because the masonry material itself does not have to

be kiln baked. So the production process is energy efficient and from monitoring hemp houses built in Suffolk England it's been proven that the material is thermally efficient as well.

The University of Hawaii has been researching the material because unlike conventional masonry materials, hemp masonry retains a flexibility that makes it an excellent building material in areas prone to extreme weather conditions.

There will be a hemp building demonstration in the Industrial Hemp Expo tent in Peace Park from 10 - 11am on Saturday and Sunday.



BEYOND PROHIBITION

HEMP ROAD MAP FOR THE FUTURE



Dr.Keith Bolton

BIO-MASSIVE

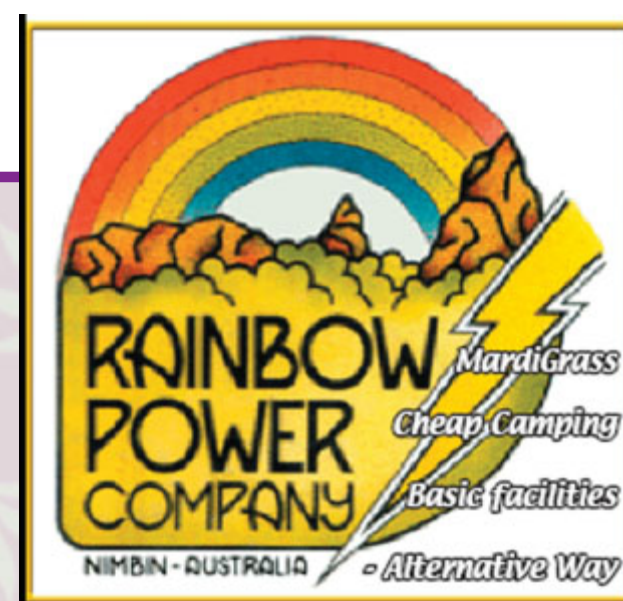
Renewable, fast-growing hemp will allow major industries to reduce their dependence on finite resources and move toward sustainable production. With focused and sustained research and development hemp will spur dramatic change.



Dr Keith Bolton, Ecotechnology Australia INDUSTRIAL HEMP EXPO

Keith Bolton's involvement in the hemp industry began in the mid nineties when he started a hemp importing business which sold all sorts of hemp products such as hemp fabric, rope, paper, hemp seed oil and hemp accessories.

He is passionate about industrial hemp and re-establishing it as one of the most useful plants known to man, especially with the ever-increasing threat of global warming and the large-scale clearing of land and forests around the world contributing to it.



HEMP INDUSTRY GREENLIGHT

Now industrial hemp has begun to be utilized for its vast array of sustainable commercial products it will create an economic atomic bomb!



NIMBIN MardiGrass

Consumers are recognising the inevitable demise of companies that exploit finite resources. Wealth will shift and take no prisoners. Entrepreneurs have not yet cashed in on the product potential of hemp.

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STICKYPOINT MAGAZINE
WWW.STICKYPOINTMAGAZINE.COM

AUSTRALIAN CANNABIS LIFESTYLE

StickyPoint Magazine - Australia's only cannabis magazine. Home-grown here in Australia. StickyPoint Magazine features educated and informative articles, as well as beautiful budshots and entertainment. Come say hi to StickyPoint in Peace Park at this year's MardiGrass.

HEMP BIO-FUEL



ETHANOL FROM FOOD CROPS AND THEIR BYPRODUCTS

Hemp's long history in civilization and the multitude of products that can be derived from this single plant has made it one of the most valuable and sustainable plants in the history of mankind.

For the pioneer bio-fuel industry, hemp provided the bio-mass that Henry Ford needed for his production of ethanol before prohibition last century.

Bast fibre crops include such species as Flax, Kenaf, Sun Hemp and Industrial Hemp. The "hurd" is the inner woody core of the bast fibre plant's stem. In general bast fibre crops produce the greatest amount of usable bio-mass, over the shortest period, for the least amount of water. Bast crops are a highly efficient mop crop and can use most types of waste or even brackish water.

Between 1.7 and 1.9 tonnes of carbon dioxide is absorbed from the atmosphere for each tonne of bast crop cellulose produced. We typically grow 10-14 tonnes of crop straw per hectare. Another 2-3 tonnes of cellulose mass is produced and stored in the root system.

Each hectare of hemp can sequester about 22 tonnes of greenhouse gases. Industrial hemp crops are able to sequester more carbon than trees in a short 150 day season cycle and leave arable land available for food and other crops during the remainder of the year.

PYROLYTIC CONVERSION

Organic plants are converted into pyrolytic fuel using a thermo-chemical process. Using the same technology as fossil fuels, the conversion of plants into renewable energy is the most efficient method of producing charcoal, pyrolytic oil, gas or methanol.

Pyrolysis occurs whenever solid organic material is heated strongly in absence of oxygen, e.g. when frying, roasting, baking, toasting. The process also occurs when burning compact solid fuel, like wood. An ancient industrial use of anhydrous pyrolysis is the production of charcoal through the pyrolysis of wood.

More recently, pyrolysis has been used on a massive scale to turn coal into coke for metallurgy, especially steelmaking. Anhydrous pyrolysis can also be used to produce liquid fuel similar to diesel from solid bio-mass or plastics.

Pyrolysis of wood for charcoal was a major industry replaced by coal during the 1800's Industrial Revolution.

HEMPSEED BIO-DIESEL

Hempseed oil has been used as lamp oil for thousands of years and has many historical links over many cultures. Bio-diesel is composed of methyl and ethyl esters. Any source of complex fatty acid can be used to create Bio-diesel and glycerin. Peanut oil, hemp oil, corn oil, and tallow are used as sources for the complex fatty acids used in the separation process.

Vegetable oils were used in diesel engines until the 1920's when an alteration was made to the engine, enabling it to use a residue of petroleum - what is now known as diesel #2.

30% hemp seed oil is usable as a high-grade diesel fuel and that it could also be used as machine lubricant and engine oil.

Bio-diesel remains in the political and economic arena and is playing a part in this process as the awareness of alternative fuel spreads through the consciousness of the general public. www.HempJobs.Net

INDUSTRIAL HEMP



SEVERE TOXICITY

Dioxins (TCDD): Paper is closely linked to everyday life, especially for packaging food and drinks.

Chlorine as a bleaching agent is used to make paper white. Wood pulp contains lignin that reacts with chlorine and creates dioxins. Biologic narcotics continue to accumulate in aquatic organisms and the food chain of many species including humans, forming environment pollution and affecting our health. Dioxins from bleaching effluent and sludge cause; cancer, monster characteristics, infertility, weak immune system function, a hormone imbalance, poor infant growth and development, and cerebral nerve pathological damage and acute toxicity disease.

Why are we making white paper?

A milk carton was found to contain 0.04 parts per trillion dioxins. It was dissolved from bleached pulp, which exceeded safety standards of under 0.000013ppt. The health standards for bleached filter paper and filter board, which filtrate blood, water, drinks, alcohol and oil are very strict. The dioxin is a severely toxic matter, which is difficult to degrade. Its half-life is 7 years and remaining time in soil is 10 years. Incidence of cancer, cardiovascular disease, and cerebrovascular disease, diabetes, kidney disease, child dysplasia, high birth deformity and environmental concerns are increasing. This is why we must produce pulp, paper and paperboard without dioxins.

Wouldn't you know?

The quality of pulp made from the bast of hemp is superior to the softwood pulp, the core pulp is similar to hardwood pulp, and the whole hemp pulp is close to the mixtures of softwood and hardwood pulp and ideal for papermaking. Cellulose contents for hemp 51.32% (softwood 50.86%), which has a high yield of pulp and low content of lignin 14.97% (softwood 27.85), so that hemp is easy to process and bleach with low amount of dioxins produced when lignin reacts with chlorine. Hemp produces more fibre than trees in a shorter period of time, is easier to process and is more versatile than trees. Natural and regrowth forests are diminishing fast and the carbon dioxide levels in the atmosphere are increasing. Who cares?



Hemp was grown legally all over the world until the US Government was successfully lobbied by large corporations to portray hemp as evil in order to displace the hemp crops with their oil supply. Oil makes petrochemicals that make the plastic capitalist's dream a reality. Petrochemical companies have protected their own agendas placing profit before integrity. Global Corporations have benefited at the expense of the reluctant consumers purchasing their diminishing resource. Fossil fuels have become uneconomical and have adverse environmental effects.

The Hemp industry was squashed by Anslinger and the Marijuana Tax Act of 1937. The rest of the world followed suit helping the US gain control of the global economy. Cannabis is a threat to the profitability of oil companies, coal, wood chip, textile, human food and stock feed industries, alcohol, tobacco plus agricultural chemical and drug companies. Corrupted Corporations are in fear of financial ruin and have suppressed the truth about Cannabis conspiring to spread misinformation about an extremely versatile plant.

CONTEMPLATING HEMP FARMING?

Dr Keith Bolton, *Ecotechnology Australia*.

In collaboration with Southern Cross University, Byron Shire Council and other organisations, I have cultivated hemp as a mop-crop for effluent reuse as an alternative to effluent disposal into waterways, and to establish a hemp germplasm collection.

because hemp out competes weeds. However early weed competition can dampen the growth of less vigorous varieties, or sparsely planted seed crops.

YIELD TO NODE

A good fibre crop will yield around 12 t of stem per hectare and a good seed crop will yield around 2 t/ha. The hemp industry is at an early stage, and processing and manufacturing industries will need to be created before commercial hemp farming can occur. This process is already happening with several companies existing with various processing mills. Quite a few "hemp nodes" exist, including established companies and cooperatives. The most significant opposition to the proliferation of hemp in Australia used to be the lack of commercial hemp legislation in some states. However this is changing and I do not see any serious impediments to the establishment of a viable Australian hemp industry.

Hemp does like its water and nutrients. However most of the nutrients are sequestered in the leaf material of fibre crops. Returning leaf back to the soil returns much of the nutrient used by the crop. Seed crops are more nutrient-hungry, and intensive hemp cropping will certainly require the input of depleted nutrients. Hemp responds very well to rotation farming, for example alternately cropping with a legume / green manure crop. Hemp, like any crop, can be grown according to sustainable or unsustainable farming techniques, however hemp certainly lends itself to the sustainable approach.

During the 7 years that I have grown hemp, I have never experienced any significant insect damage. In contrast, a kenaf plantation that I grew directly adjacent to a hemp plantation was almost completely defoliated by Monoleptus beetle, while the 2ha hemp plantation sustained less than 5% leaf loss. No herbicides are required if hemp is planted in a recently cultivated paddock

THE MAIN CHALLENGES ARE-

To maintain harmony within a new and rapidly establishing industry
Developing new hemp varieties and establish reliable seed source
Establishment of processing and manufacturing industries
Managing the early stages of rapidly changing supply and demand

Hemp was called the most profitable and desirable crop that could be grown. And now it is coming back because there is no other plant that compares with versatile hemp.



FTNWO

HempJobs.Net



EFA man: Wizard



MORE IRONY?

Tasmania has been a major player in the Australian hemp industry, starting with Patsy and Fritz Harmen. A fair bit of seed for food is produced in Tasmania. Ironically, it's exported because Australia is one of the few remaining countries whose leaders don't allow Australians to eat hemp seed, which is one of the most nutritional foods available.

Even more ironically, our leaders have allowed Australian food industries to continue using food additives e.g. preservatives and colourings that are well known to adversely and sometimes seriously affect humans (especially children!!) even when they are banned in most other countries. And the corporations that produce these chemicals that cause serious behaviour and physiological issues in our children also produce the drugs that alleviate their symptoms.

Certainly working in the hemp industry - which has been effectively quashed during the last 70 years of prohibition - has caused me to ponder upon some of the anomalies that we are faced with on a daily basis. It has also caused me to consider that the quality of leadership during this time has been absolutely appalling. Working in the hemp industry is a positive way of challenging some of these very harmful paradigms, and I applaud those leaders who have allowed us to now grow hemp in NSW.

