



The Mini Roos experience Interview with Ester and Eva

by Genevieve Payne

1. How many seasons have you played soccer at the Nimbin Headers?
Ester: This is my first. Eva: Two
2. Do you play soccer at school at lunch time?
Ester: Sometimes. Eva: No
3. Do you have any family members that also play for the Nimbin Headers?
Ester: Yes, my sister did and my mum plays for the Nimbin Headers. Eva: No.
4. What's the best thing about playing soccer?
Ester: The game but the eggplant pies are delicious and I love messing around with my friends at Headers. Eva: Having fun with friends!
5. What do you think makes a great teammate?
Ester: Kindness, the ability to pass, and trustworthiness. Eva: Teammates that help me out.
6. What do you think makes a great soccer player?
Ester: skill, practice and resilience. Not really hogging the ball. Eva: That they are capable.
7. Do you have a special soccer memory or soccer moment that makes you proud?
Ester: Tackling people that were a few years older than me. Eva: When I scored my first goal!
8. Who's your favourite soccer hero or team?
Ester: I like the Matildas and I saw them once play a game. Eva: The Tullies!



Nimbin Crossword solution

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Headers Men's Championship team



Back row: Gordon King, Yuto Tobiie, Marial Maciek, Tim Duckering, Jaiden Bell, Lewis King, Fergus McGlone, Cedric Rabiller, Brighton Courtney, Hunter Smith and Liam Terry.
Front row: Ruben Mack, Zakaria Cheurfi, Daniel Glass, Albert Waddington, David Vieira and Phil Courtney.

by Lewis King

It's been a bumpy start to the 2026 season for our Men's Championship team.

Off the back of winning two consecutive grand finals in previous years, it was surprising to lose a total of six core players from the team before the season had even begun.

Our talisman striker and goal-scoring freak Quinlan Cox, along with both our goalkeepers Dylan Morris and Jerara Allan, all left, some for greener pastures, others to travel the world or recover from injuries.

Suddenly, our ability both to score and save goals was instantly reduced. Tyson Sledge, one of our young talents, earned his place in the new Northern Rivers U23 Academy side. We're proud to still call him one of our own and have welcomed his presence at several trainings, bringing his talent and energy to the sessions.

Sam Russel and Harry Waddington also MIA this year, along with their training ground banter and endless energy.

Despite losing several key players, we actively recruited some exciting new talent this year. Attacking players Hunter Smith, aka the Huntsman, and David Vieira – the Brazilian – bring fresh energy.

Nimbin's own Brighton Courtney has stepped up this year, with Phil Courtney in tow, along with Jaiden Bell a solid central defender and my future replacement. Cedric Rabiller (Silky

Ceddy) also made an unexpected return after a year off.

We also picked up a very experienced midfielder, Brendan Young, who recently moved to the area. His solid tackling, great touch and footballing brain were a welcome addition to the team.

Old favourites from last year: Marial Maciek, Fergus McGlone, Tim Duckering, Daniel Glass, Ruben Mack, Albert Waddington and Zakaria Cheurfi provide stability and continuity to the team.

Yuto Tobiie has been out with a knee injury sustained in a summer competition and is a huge loss in defence. Another notable absence on the touchline has been Torsten Wittkopf's formidable presence.

The coaching has been taken on by the injured Tobiie, who has approached it with great enthusiasm, along with help from Liam when he is able.

A wise man once told me, "The goalkeeper is the most important player on the pitch", and at the time of writing, we're still looking for one – if you know anyone, send them our way!

Unfortunately, in recent weeks we've had several season-ending injuries. Firstly Brendan Young, with a meniscus tear sustained in our demoralising 7-1 loss to Suffolk Park.

And myself, with a tibial plateau fracture after colliding with the goalkeeper in a narrow 3-2 loss against top-of-the-table Pottsville.

In my 17 years of playing, I had never sustained a serious injury, and after spending a week in hospital, I'm now

home recovering from surgery with a new titanium plate in my leg. I'm looking at 6-9 months rehab and recovery.

I am hoping to return to the pitch next year, all going well – but only time will tell.

Despite all the setbacks this year, the team has generally maintained good spirits. Early in the season, we fell into old habits of playing long balls and low-percentage kick-and-chase football.

In recent weeks though, we've returned to possession-based football, and it led to our spirited 3-2 loss to Pottsville – top of the table and the team to beat this year – where we played some of our best football of the season so far.

Playing out from the back, using short passing and switching play before going long gives players more touches on the ball and helps build confidence throughout the whole team.

It's also far more entertaining to watch and brings the quality of football up throughout the whole team.

Once I've recovered and am more mobile, I look forward to assisting Tobiie with coaching the team and working on the fundamentals of the game.

Even though I can't play again this year I will still be actively involved in the team and aim to see a return to form from the lads later in the year, just in time for finals!

As always big thanks to all our committee members, volunteers, coaches and referees. If you'd like to be involved, get in touch: nimbinheaderssportsclub@gmail.com

Player interview – Jake Lennon

by Genevieve Payne

1. How long have you been playing soccer and where did it start?

I started playing soccer when I was 5. My first team was the Goonellabah hornets, but I only played for a few years then had around 25 years off before coming to the Headers.

2. How did you end up playing for the Headers?

I came to the Headers to play with my brother and friends of mine who had come to live around Nimbin.

3. Asides from a win, what makes a good game?

A good game has a high level of intensity and good moments of suspense.

4. What's something that you've learned from soccer that applies to life off the field?

Once people are comfortable with each other socially it makes it easier for them to take on challenges as a team.

5. What's your favourite post-game meal?

A can of XXXX gold and an eggplant pie

6. What position do you play and what is your position's role?

I play centre-back. I have to keep the defence in shape

and stop the opponents from breaking through.

7. Who out of your teammates is the most likely to forget their gear?

Mischa

8. What is your favourite Nimbin Headers memory?

Watching the champs win at home with the crowd screaming and a huge hive of bees buzzing around in one of the big tallowoods.

9. What do you think makes a good team player?

Someone who knows how to listen to others on the field but also knows how to make themselves heard.

10. What is the best part of being a part of the Headers?



Getting to catch up with the awesome community of people that come to Headers games at home. I also love coming down to watch the Ladies on a Sunday army.

Don't miss the Lantern Parade

The iconic Lismore Lantern Parade will once again light up the streets of Lismore on Saturday 20th June, kicking off with a full day of markets, live music and exciting activities.

Celebrating its 32nd year with the theme of Year of the Horse, a nod to the Chinese horoscope, the parade will draw an audience of many thousands from across the Northern Rivers and further afield.

LightnUp chief executive Jyllie Jackson said the theme will shape the Fiery Finale at Oakes Oval that ends the parade, with the horse symbolising strength, energy and movement.

"We are incredibly proud to bring the parade to the streets of Lismore for more than 30 years. It has become just an important fixture on the community calendar with 24 schools involved, along with many other community organisations," she said.

"It seems as though every year it just gets bigger and better than the previous year."

The day begins at 10.30am with Market deLight. Wander through an irresistible mix of regional foods, arts and crafts, and pop-up shops from local CBD businesses.

It's the perfect place to graze, browse and soak up the festival vibe, and take the time to explore the beautiful

Enchanted Windows created by local businesses.

And for the young and young at heart, KidsFest runs from 10.30am to 4.30pm.

The day will be packed with activities, performances, jumping castles and hands-on fun delivered by local organisations, including Summerland Bank's giant street games and lantern-decorating station.

The much loved HeartBeats Festival stage will host some incredible talent, including a



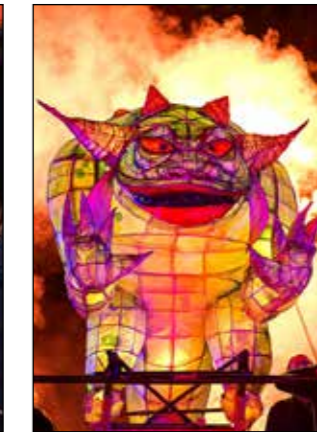
special Acknowledgement of Country from the delightful Little Jarjums from Friends Children's Centre.

This will be followed by a vibrant mix of music and performance throughout the day and into the evening. Scarlet Raffles, Spindarellas and Veil of Dreams are just some of the names that will entertain in crowds.

As night falls, the Parade will take to the streets, starting at the Riviera Car



Photos: Natsky



Park behind Molesworth Street at 5.30pm, moving along Magellan Street through the Market deLight, past the Library then up Dawson Street into Oakes Oval.

Along the way, keep an eye out for the friendly Bucketeers, who will be collecting donations or offering Digital Bucket cards.

The parade ends with the powerful and unforgettable Fiery Finale at Oakes

Oval from 6.30-7.30pm, featuring large scale lanterns, performances, some gentle pyrotechnics and lots of fire. (Hint: Dawson Street is lovely and wide, close to Oakes Oval for the Fiery Finale)

Entry to the Finale is free, with ticketed grandstand seating now on sale.

To purchase your tickets or for further information, please go to: www.lismorelanternparade.com.au

Wearable art show

Heart Light 26 is a bold new wearable art competition where creativity and light come together on stage at the Star Court Theatre on Thursday 18th June.

Presented by LightnUp Inc, the team behind the Lismore Lantern Parade, Heart Light 26 will feature more than 70 entries from local artists, students and creatives at the Gala night.

LightnUp's chief executive Jyllie Jackson said: "This is not just a fashion show, it's a celebration of imagination, sustainability and community, featuring illuminated, one-of-a-kind wearable artworks in a runway-style performance. This is something not to be missed."

The themes for the Heart Light 26 Wearable Art Awards are: Jurassic World; The Elements, Trash and Treasure, and Myths and Legends.

As they strut their wearable art on the runway, the entries will be judged by a panel consisting of Linda Tova of North-East Waste; chief executive of NSW Museums and Galleries Brett Addlington; presenter of Richmond Valley Radio's *The Long Lunch* Nora Vidler-Blanksby; Ellen Cronan; and from Italy the chief designer at Paul Meccanico and accomplished painter, Paul Albert Dari, who seamlessly bridges the worlds of visual art and fashion.

Tickets for each of the two shows can be purchased on-line for \$15 by going to the website: www.lismorelanternparade.com.au

Workshop

A wearable art and lantern decorating workshop will be held on Saturday 6th June, 10am-2pm at Lismore Regional Gallery.

Artists, students and everyday creatives are invited to continue making their wearable creations, and to decorate lanterns.

LightnUp will provide lots of fun 'trash and treasures', hot glue and fairy lights to complete your wearable artwork and decorate lanterns.

You may wish to make a mask or a head-dress to complete your outfit for the parade on 20th June. Suitable for adults or young people over 16 years.

You are invited (not compulsory) to don your finished garment and hop up onto the catwalk at the Heart Light 26 Wearable Art Awards and go into the draw to win \$500.

AGENT OF THE YEAR AWARDS 2019, 2022, 2023, 2024

#4 AGENT FOR LISMORE GREATER REGION

#1 AGENT FOR NIMBIN

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NEW
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3 1 7 8 Acres
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\$910,000 Agents: John & Michelle



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NEW PRICE
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SOLD
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SOLD
6/265 Martin Road, Larnook
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\$740,000 Agent: Jacqui



SOLD
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