



Nimbin Community Sustainability Survey 2019



REPORT

This is the fifth Community Sustainability Survey conducted in Nimbin by the Nimbin Neighbourhood and Information Centre (NNIC). The survey is intended to engage the community in, and measure the results of, the Sustainable Nimbin Community Plan (SNCP). The scope of the survey includes questions relevant to the nine Key Focus Areas of the SNCP.

The survey period was two months between September and October 2019. Previous survey years were 2009-10, 2011, 2013 and 2016.

This survey was completed by 241 people, compared to 264 in 2016, 240 in 2013, 155 in 2011 and 140 in 2009.

Some questions have been asked over multiple surveys in order to track certain trends. Each survey features questions particularly relevant to the survey period, or according to updates to the SNCP, or because the need to measure something new has arisen in the community.

In this survey there were a series of questions asked in relation to the issue of plastic use, disposal and recycling. These questions were asked for the purpose of evaluating the extent of the issue in Nimbin given the background of the plastic recycling crisis across Australia, and the feasibility of developing a plastics recycling project at 7 Sibley Street, Nimbin's Sustainable Living Hub.

Not all respondents answered every question. The percentage shown against each question is the percentage of people who answered that particular question. The percentages shown have generally been rounded to the nearest whole number.

The survey was widely distributed and advertised via posters/flyers displayed around town and at key businesses in the catchment area (e.g. Wadeville Woolies, Mt Burrell shop), the NNIC website, the Nimbin Hook-Ups Facebook page, Nimbin Good Times, the sustainability email list, numerous community events and the 2019 Nimbin Agricultural Show. It was available at NNIC for the survey period, and on numerous occasions on the main street of Nimbin at our NNIC 'pop-up' street stalls.

The majority of surveys were distributed and collected by hand by NNIC team members, who checked that each respondent had not already done the survey. The survey was also made available online and 23 surveys (9.5%) were returned electronically. Respondents were self-selected and although it is possible that an individual respondent undertook more than one survey, it is highly unlikely given its length and nature and the level of commitment required to complete it.

The results were entered and collated via an electronic data base which generated the raw and cross-matched data, on the basis of which this Report is produced.

It must be noted that a lot has happened since this survey was conducted. At the time of the survey the community was experiencing drought conditions and anxiety around water

security was growing. Immediately after this survey closed, the Mt Nardi bushfire emergency commenced. The fire continued through November and December, with the first significant rainfalls occurring on Christmas Eve and the fire finally declared extinguished by mid-January 2020.

Then, just as the community was returning to normality, Covid 19 emerged in March 2020.

The responses to the health and well-being questions (questions 4 to 10) are likely to have been impacted by the above events and it is important to be aware that they pre-date the bushfire and Covid 19.

SECTION ONE: Survey Demographics

Q1: Your gender?

Total responses: 241

Male: 92

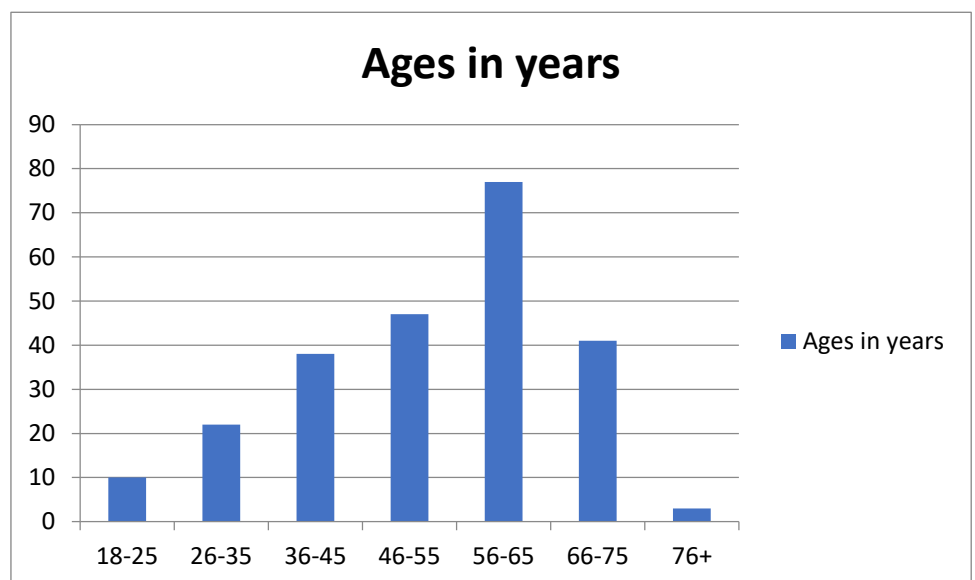
Female: 144

Other: 5

Q2: Your age?

Total responses: 238

Comments: *The majority of respondents were aged between 46 and 65 and the 18 - 35 age group makes up 13% of the sample. This is a slight increase on previous years (max of 11% in 2016 survey). The ages of respondents is consistent with the age demographic of the community according to the National Census.*



Between 2006 and 2016, the average age increased from 43 to 50 years, (compared with the 2016 national average of 38 years).

http://www.censusdata.abs.gov.au/census_services/getproduct/census/2016/quickstat/SSC12965?opendocument

Q3a: Where do you live?

Total responses: 238

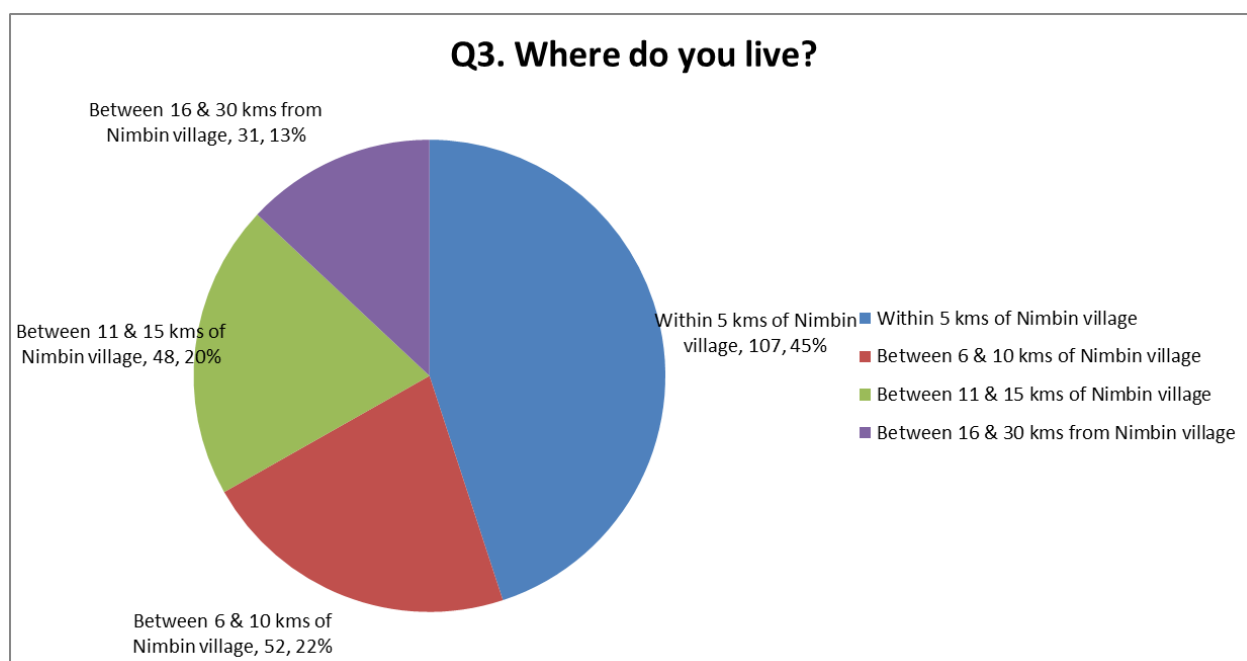


Figure 2

Q3b: Your locality:

Places with more than 5 respondents are listed below.

Nimbin	53
Stony Chute	18
Blue Knob	16
Tuntable Falls	19
Lillian Rock	12
Gungas Rd	12
Crofton Rd	9
Jarlanbah	6
Mt Burrell	5
Wadeville	5

A further 31 places were listed, including Barkersvale, Nimbin Rocks, Coffee Camp, Bishops Creek, The Channon, Goolmangar, Byrill Creek, Mt Burrell, Larnook, Jiggi, Georgica and Mountain Top.

Comment: this is a good representation of people across the catchment area. The village of Nimbin is located in Northern New South Wales in the Northern corner of the Lismore Local Government Area. However, the actual catchment area of Nimbin cuts across the Tweed and Kyogle Local Government Areas and extends to Kyogle in the South West, Uki to the North, Goolmangar to the South. The catchment area, or bio-region, has been identified by data from NNIC, Nimbin Hospital and the GP clinic. The bio-region is also determined by geological and topographical features such as creeks, valleys and mountains that form a natural boundary around the catchment area.

SECTION TWO: Health and Wellbeing

Q4: Do you feel proud to be a part of the Nimbin community?

Total responses: 239

Yes: 214 (89%)

No: 6 (2.5%)

Unsure: 19

Pride by gender: There was no significant difference between genders with 81% of males, 83% of females and 100% of others answering Yes to Q4.

Pride by age: Again there were no significant differences in the responses to Q4 by age groups.

Trend: The level of pride in the community remains steady. (Fig 3)

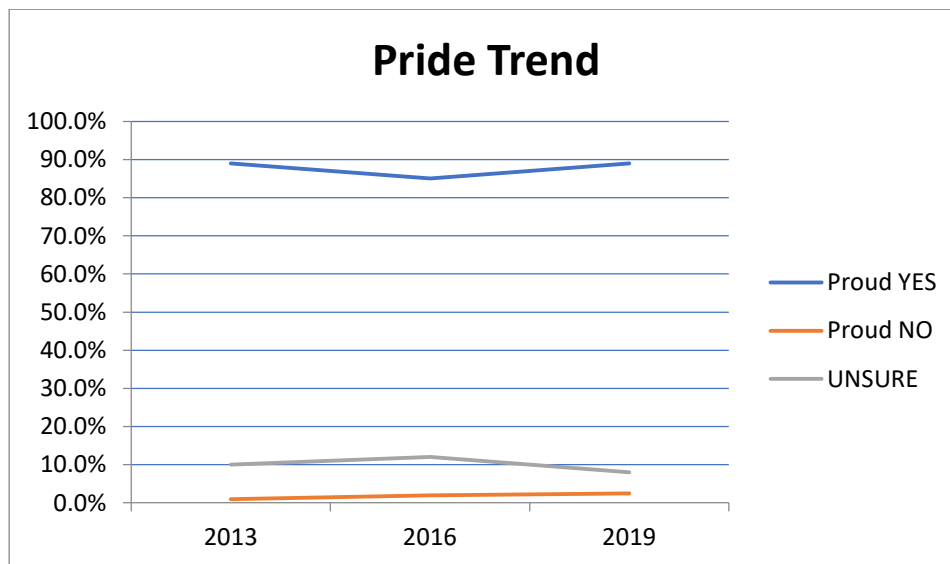


Figure 3

Q5: I feel optimistic about the future of Nimbin?

Total responses: 237

Strongly agree: 70 (30%)

Agree: 101 (43%)

Unsure: 60 (25%)

Disagree: 5 (2%)

Strongly disagree: 1

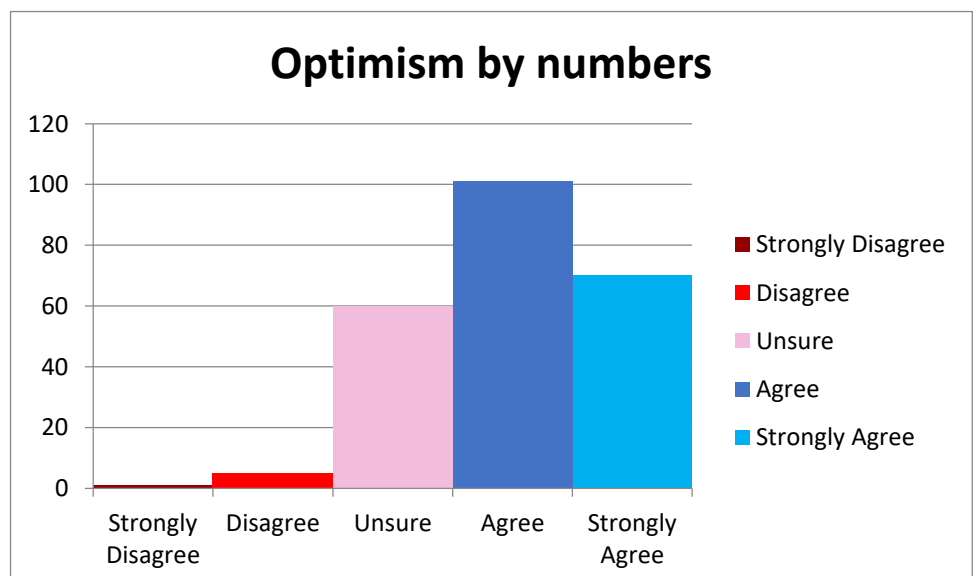


Figure 4

TREND: 73% agreed or strongly agreed that they are optimistic about the future of Nimbin, down from 78% in 2016 (of 261 responses) and 84% (of 237 responses) in 2013. This gradual trend downwards may reflect the impacts of a range of factors including climate change, drought, increasing financial pressures (Fig 5).

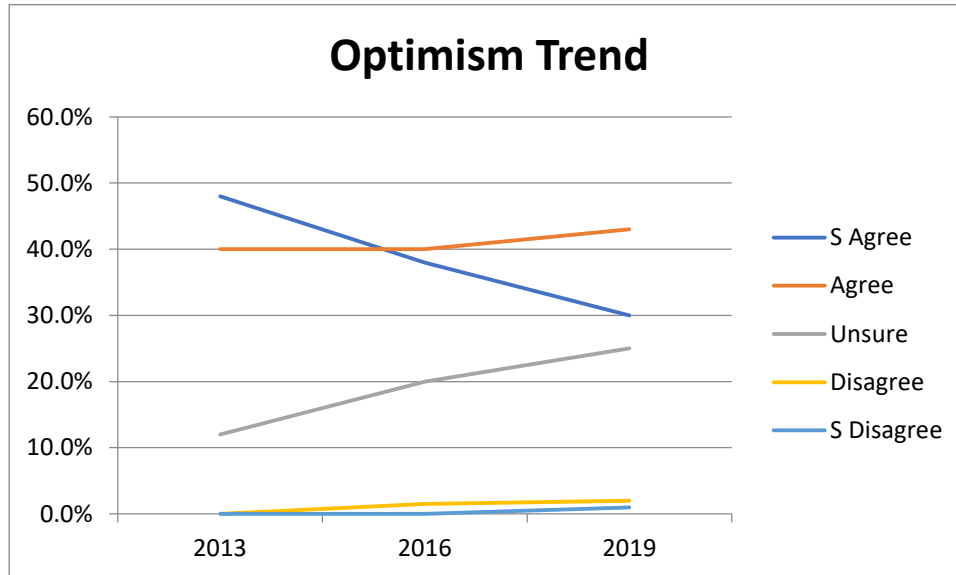


Figure 5

Q6: Do you feel safe in the Nimbin village?

Total responses: 239

Always: 101 (42%)

Usually: 123 (52%)

Sometimes: 12 (5%)

Rarely: 3 (1%)

Never: 0

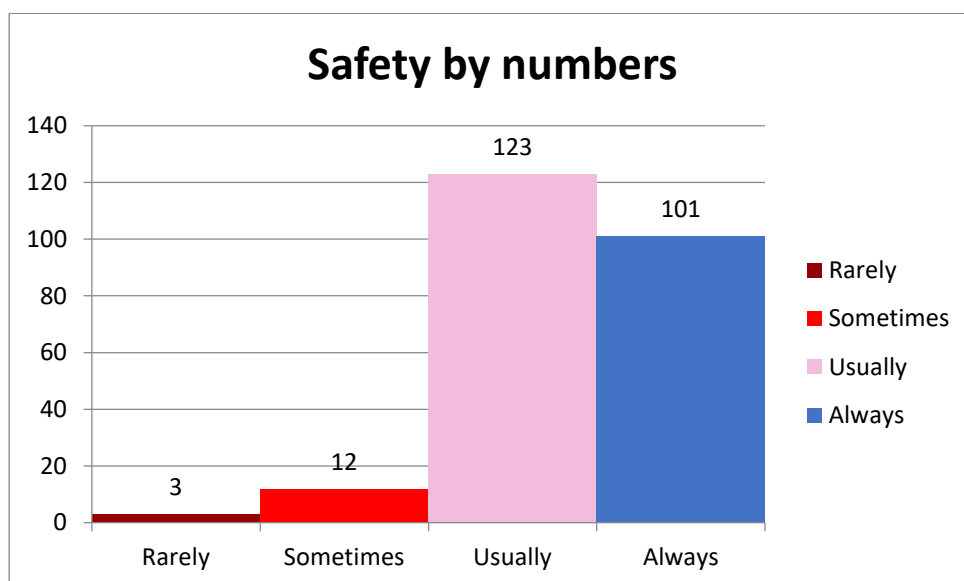


Figure 6

Safety by Gender: There was little variance between the genders, with 41% of females saying always, 52% usually, 4.8% sometimes and 1.4 rarely. Compared to 43% of males who said always, 50% usually, 5.5% sometimes and 1% rarely Other: 100% said Always or Usually (Fig 7).

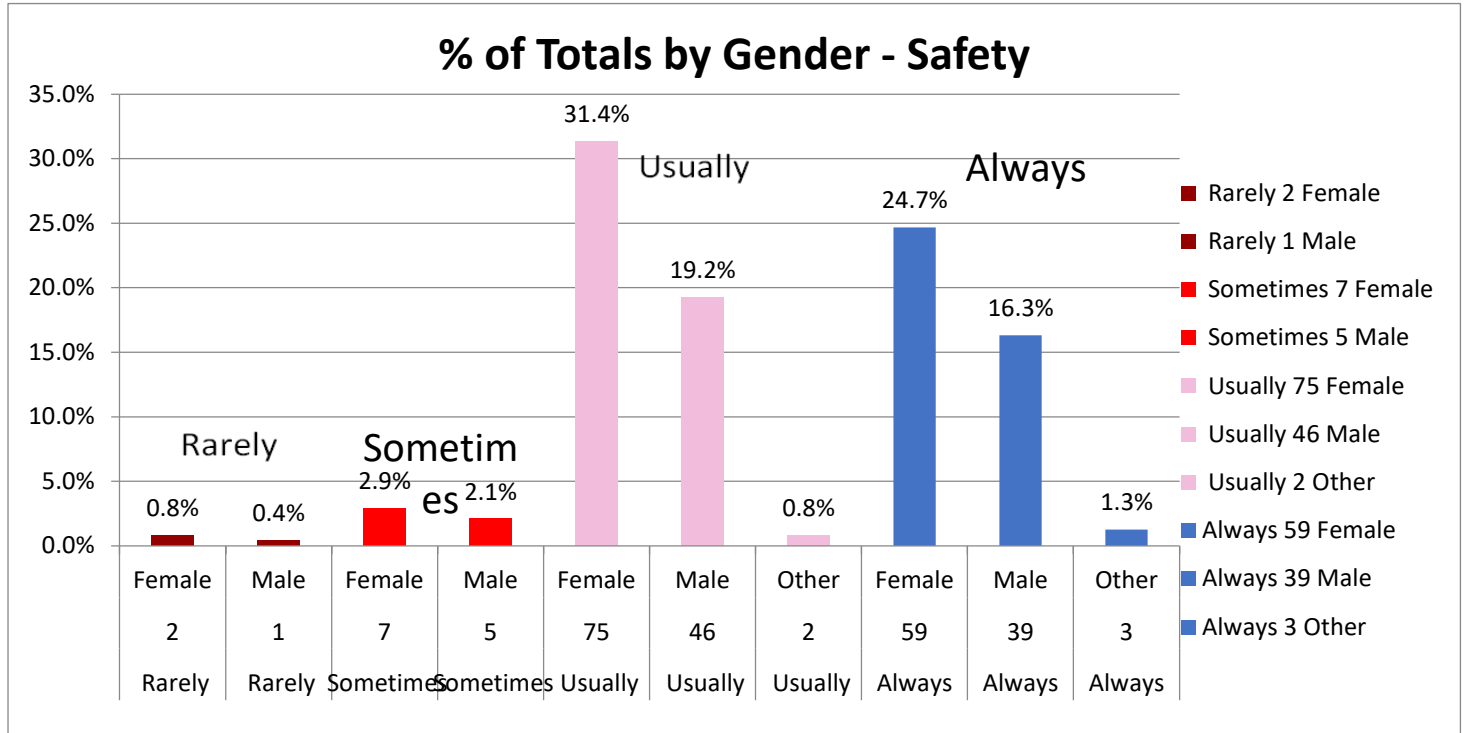


Figure 7

Safety by Age: The respondents aged between 46-55 and 56-65 felt the least safe, with around 8% in both age groups indicating they only felt safe 'sometimes'. Otherwise there were no significant differences between the age groups.

Notably, no respondents said they never feel safe in Nimbin.

Trend: This was the second time this question was asked and the results indicate little change with 94% indicating they always/usually feel safe (compared to 91% in 2016) and 6% indicating the only rarely/sometimes feel safe (compared to 8% in 2016).

Q7: please rate your current level of happiness (1= low, 5= very high)

Total responses: 235

- 1: 4 (2%)
- 2: 10 (4%)
- 3: 41 (18%)
- 4: 102 (43%)
- 5: 78 (33%)

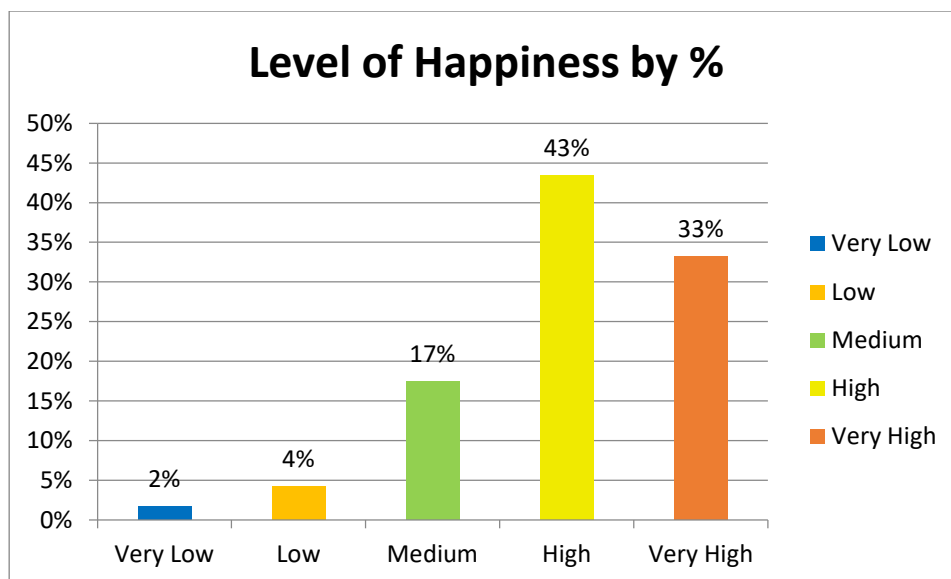


Figure 8

Happiness by Gender: gender made no significant difference to levels of happiness (Fig 9).

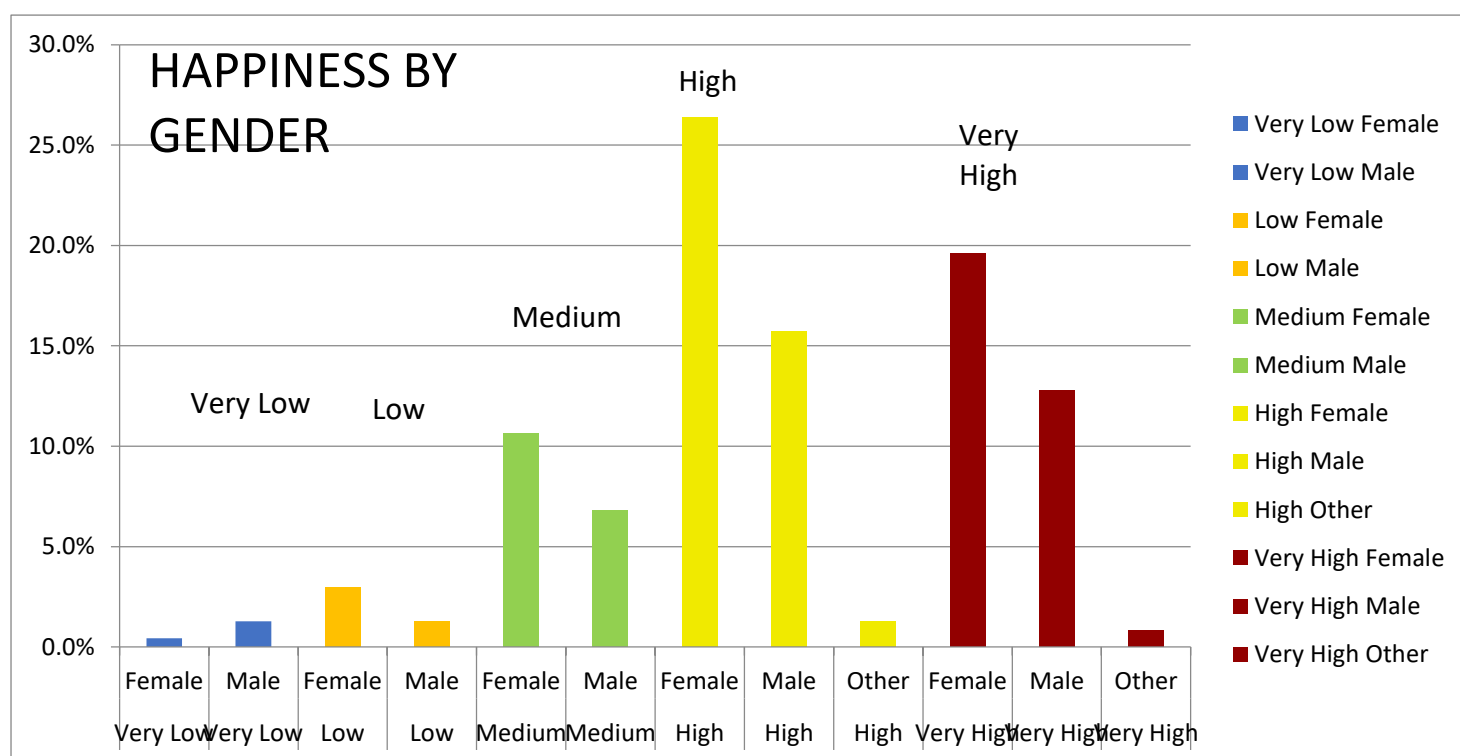


Figure 9

Happiness by age: There were no significant differences in the responses to Q7 by age groups.

Trend: The rate of low levels of happiness remain steady, but the highest level of happiness has fallen noticeably below the second highest level in 2019 (Fig 10).

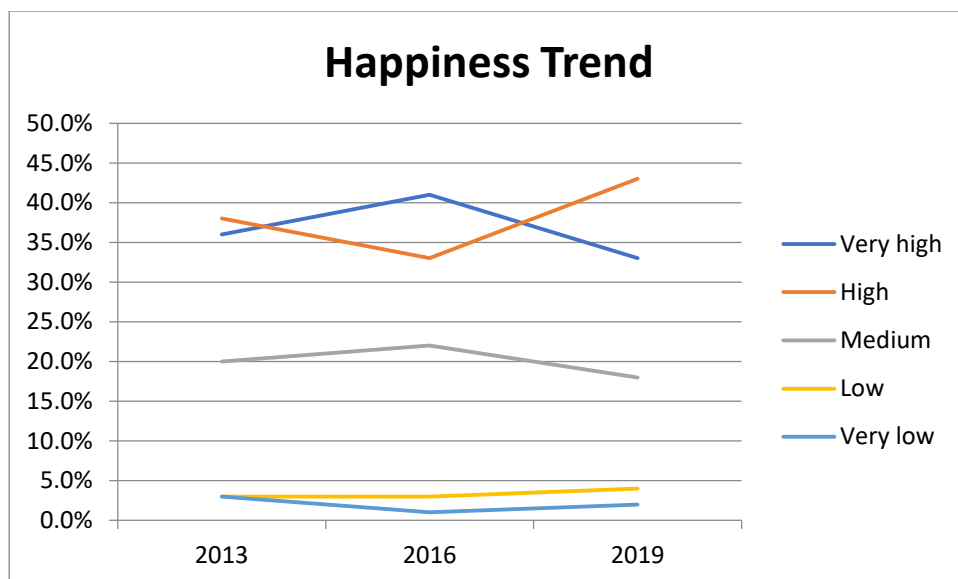


Figure 10

Q8: How often do you get exercise (i.e. sustained exercise for at least 15 mins)?

Total responses: 241

Daily: 145 (60%)

Weekly: 69 (29%)

Monthly: 8 (3%)

Rarely: 18 (7.5%)

Never: 1 (0.5%)

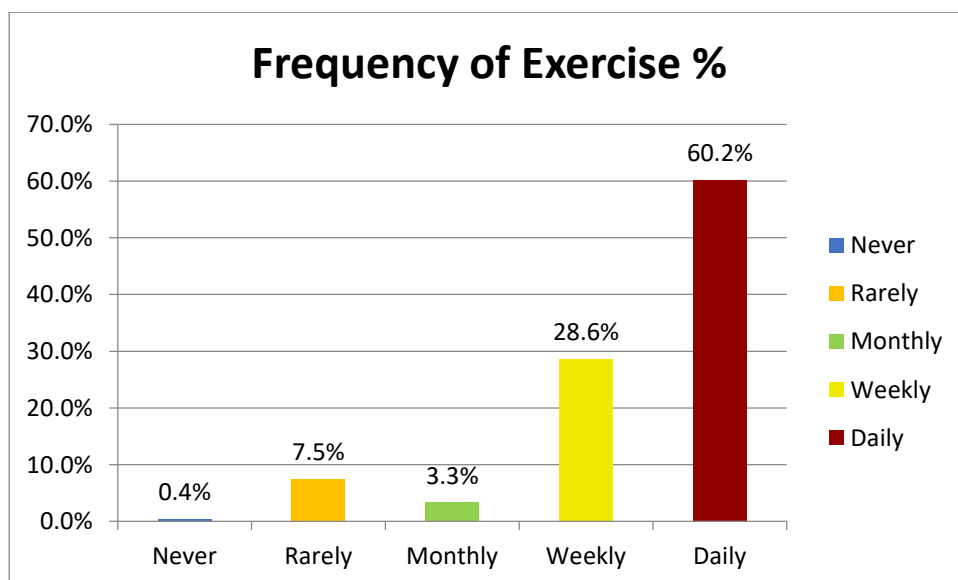


Figure 11

Exercise by gender: there was little variance between men and women with e.g. 61% (men) and 59% (women) exercising daily, and 9% (men) and 7% (women) exercising only rarely. The other respondents exercised daily or weekly.

Exercise by age: 80% of the (10) respondents in the 18-25yr old group said they exercised every day. The age group with the next highest level of exercise was the 66-75 group with 70%

indicating they exercised daily, followed by the 56-65yr olds (65%), 36-45 year olds (55%) and 76+ at 33%. The remaining 2 respondents aged 76+ indicated they exercised weekly.

The age group indicating the lowest levels of exercise was the 26-35 year olds, with 13% indicating they exercised rarely or never, followed by 66-75 yr olds (9.7%), 18-25 yr olds (9%), 46-55yr olds (8.5%).

Trend: The frequency of exercise among respondents is reasonably steady (Fig 12).

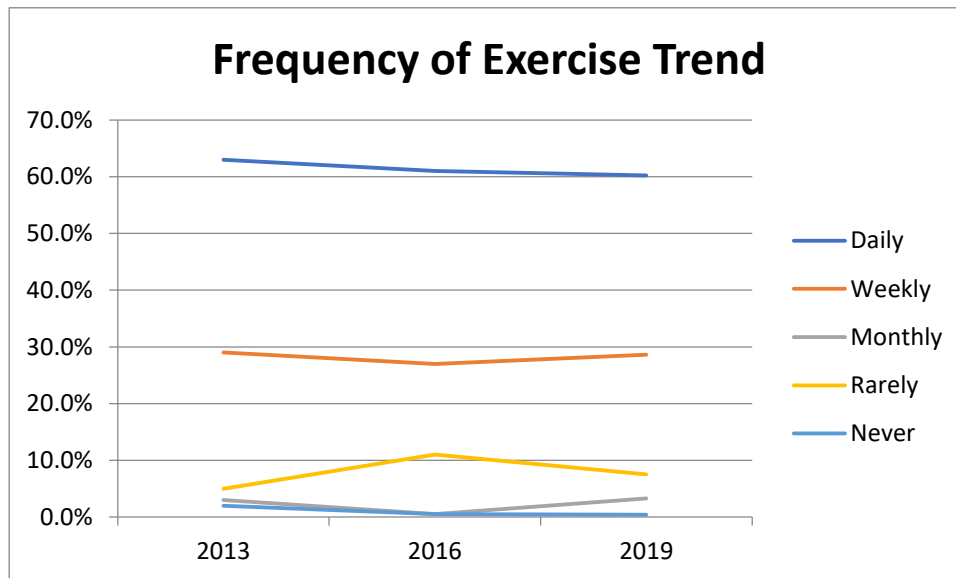


Figure 12

Q9: Please rate your current level of health (1= very poor, 5= excellent)

Total responses: 235

- 1: 1 (0.3%)
- 2: 8 (3.4%)
- 3: 68 (28.9%)
- 4: 101 (43%)
- 5: 57 (24.3%)

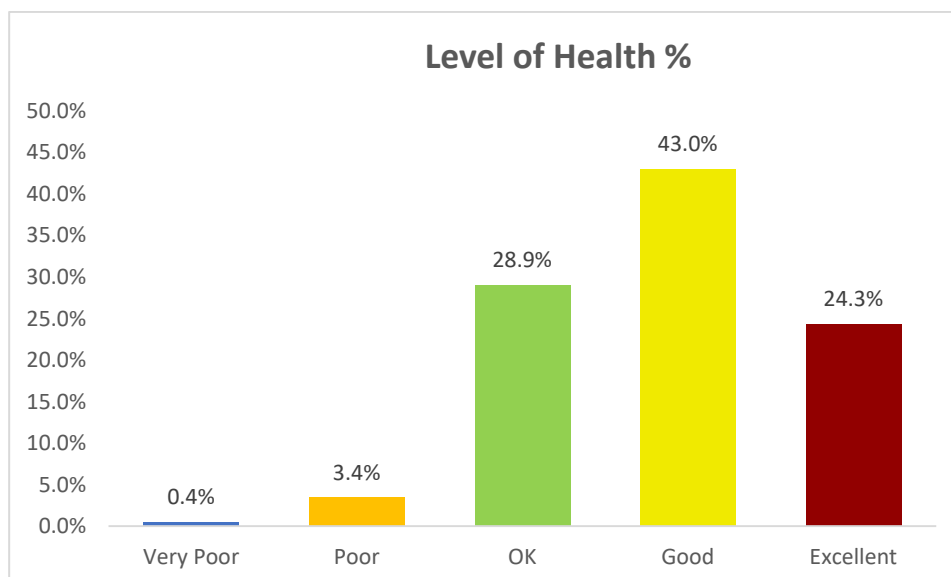


Figure 13

Health by gender: More males (33%) than females (19.7%) rated their health as being excellent, and a slightly higher percentage of females (4.2%) rated their health as being poor or very poor, compared to 3.4% of males.

Health by age: None of the respondents aged 45 years or less rated their health as being poor or very poor. Only one respondent rated their health as being very poor and they were in the 56-65 age group.

Of the three respondents in the 76+ age group, two rated their health as good and one as okay.

The 56-65 age group rated their health the highest overall, with 29% saying it is excellent and 46% good (75% total).

68% of 26-35 year olds rated their health as good or excellent, compared to 67% of 36-45 year olds, 65% of 66-75 year olds and 61% of 46-55 year olds.

Of the 9 respondents in the 18-25ys group, 77% rated their health as being okay, and only 23% rated their health as being good or excellent.

Trend: see Fig. 14

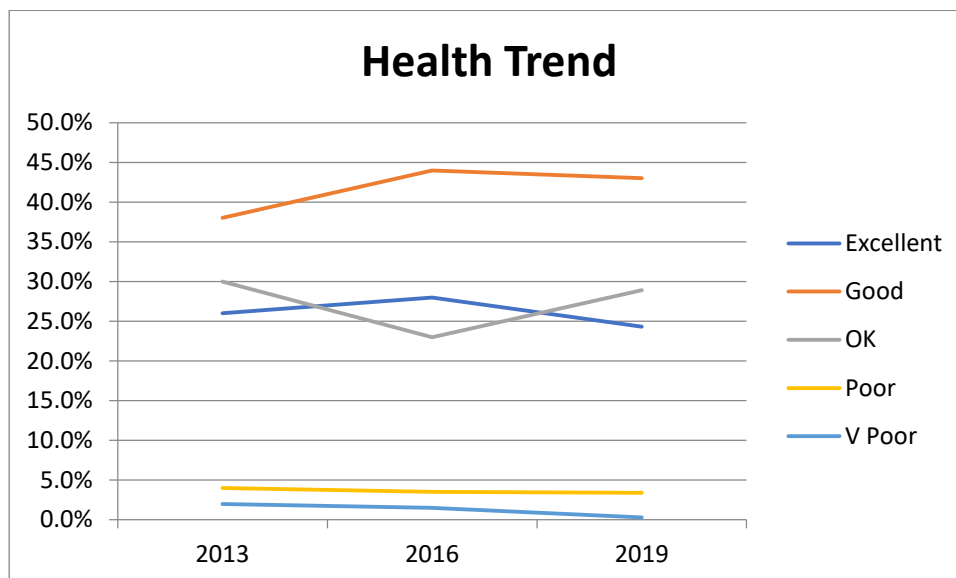


Figure 14

Q10: do you have access to health and welfare services when you need them?

Total responses: 238

Always: 102 (42%)

Often: 75 (32%)

Sometimes: 48 (20%)

Rarely: 9 (4%)

Never: 4 (2%)

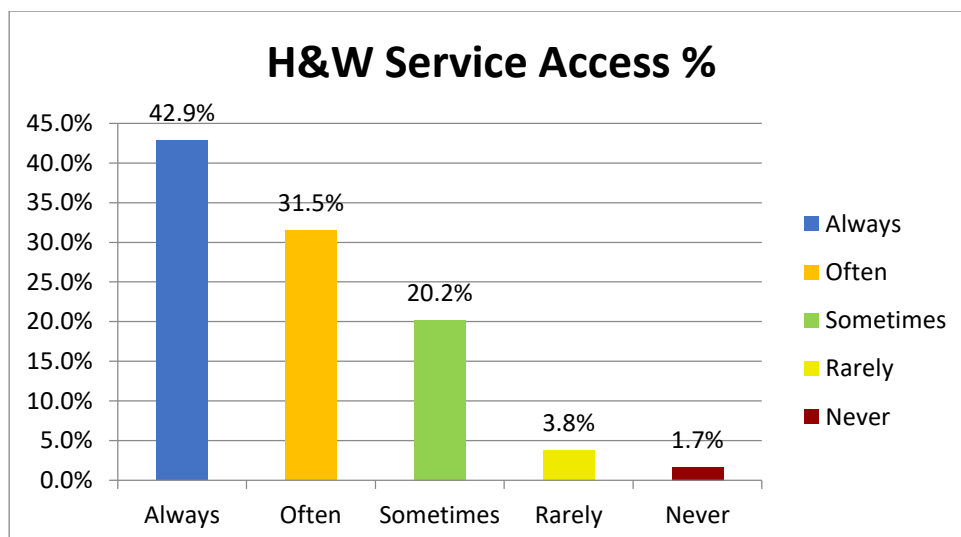


Figure 15

Access by gender: Gender made no significant difference to the degree of access to services.

Access by age: Only the 46-55 year olds (10.6%) and 56-65 year olds (7.8%) indicated they rarely or never can access services when needed.

100% of the 3 respondents aged 76 years said they can always access services when needed, followed by 58% of 66-75 year olds and 52% of 26-35 year olds.

Trend: There was a reduction in respondents indicating Rarely or Never (5.5%) in 2019, compared to 10% in 2016 and 8% in 2013.

SECTION THREE: Sustainable Economic Development

Q11: Can you connect to the internet at home?

Total response: 238

Yes: 205 (86%)

No: 33 (14%).

Comments: There appears to be a slight improvement in connectivity since the 2013 survey but with 14% of respondents continuing to report (18% in 2013) that they are unable to access the internet at home, in spite of the commencement of the NBN Fixed Wireless service in Nimbin since 2013, there remains a digital divide within the community.

SECTION FOUR: Sustainable Energy

Q12: Do you have problems paying your electricity bills?

Total responses: 235

Always: 9 (4%)

Often: 12 (5%)

Sometimes: 46 (20%)

Rarely: 36 (15%)

Never: 132 (56%)

Comments: *there is no significant change from the 2013 or 2016 surveys and the degree of electricity stress remains steady. 29% of people have problems paying their bills at least sometimes but the majority (71%) rarely or never have such problems. This is a likely reflection of the high uptake of solar, including stand-alone systems, in the community. It was anticipated that electricity stress would increase with price rises and end of the gross 60c Feed-In-Tariff in NSW, however this does not seem to have impacted the data in this survey in fact.*

Q13: do you have difficulty understanding your electricity bills?

Total responses: 226

Yes: 45 (20%)

No: 181 (80%)

Comments: *Based on these results, the energy literacy of the community has improved with 20% reporting difficulties compared to 27% in 2016. With 1/5 respondents indicating difficulties, however, this remains an issue of concern. It is important that people understand their electricity notices in order to manage their household usage and subsequent costs, as well as to ensure that any solar arrays are in fact performing.*

Q14: Did you know that NNIC can assist with electricity vouchers for people in electricity bill stress?

Total responses: 231

Yes: 81

No: 34

I do now: 121

SECTION FIVE: Social and Political

Q15a: Do you volunteer at all?

Total responses: 240

Yes: 147 (61%)

No: 93 (39%)

Trend: *Volunteering has trended upwards from 2016 and is also slightly higher than in 2013 (Fig. 16).*

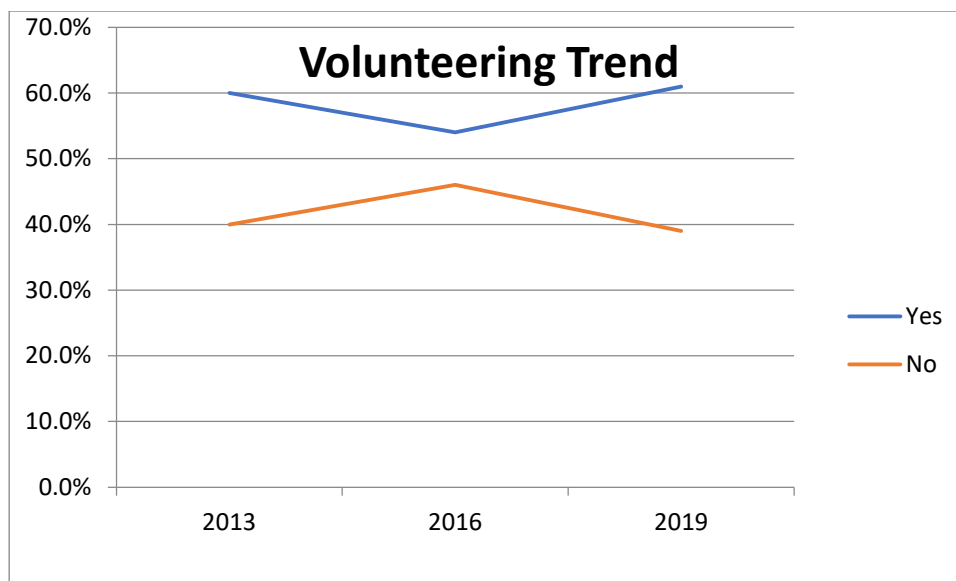


Figure 16

Q15b: If YES, estimated hours per week:

Total responses: 115

Trend: A total of 933 hours were volunteered each week by 115 volunteers, which is an average of 8 hours per week (compared to 6.7hrs in 2016 and 8.4hrs in 2013). The highest number of hours reported was 35hours/week, and 14 people reported a single hour per week. Overall the variations between 2013 and 2019 are minimal.

Q16: How often do you socialise?

Total responses: 235

Daily: 80 (34%)

Weekly/fortnightly: 115 (49%)

Monthly: 18 (7.5%)

Every few months: 4 (1.7%)

Rarely: 17 (7.3%)

Never: 1 (0.5%)

Trend: socialising has trended downwards from 2016, with 83% socialising daily-fortnightly in 2019, compared to 87.5% in 2016 and 7.8% socialising rarely or never in 2019, compared to 4.05% in 2016.

Q17: approximately how many community events have you attended in the last 6 months?

Total responses: 228

None: 23 (10%)

Between 1 & 5: 160 (70%)

More than 5: 45 (20%)

Trend: community engagement remains high with 70% attending between 1 and 5 events (compared to 61% in 2016) and 20% attending more than 5 (compared to 27% and 34% in 2013). In 2016 12% had attended no community events, compared to 10% in 2019.

SECTION SIX: Housing and the Built Environment

Q18: Do you have an emergency bushfire plan in place?

Total responses: 225

Yes: 124 (55%)

No: 101 (45%)

Comments: It is noteworthy that, immediately prior to the Mt Nardi Bushfire emergency commencing in November 2019, only 55% of respondents had a bushfire plan in place. This question was asked partly to prompt people to develop a bushfire plan, in circumstances where the community had endured many months of drought, and significant areas in the North Coast region had already burned in the 2019 bushfire season.

SECTION SEVEN: Biodiversity and the Natural Environment

Q19: in the last 6 months have you seen any of the following within 500m of your house?

Number of responses: 229

The following table compares the 2016 and 2013 results.

Species	2013	2016	2019	Increase/Decrease/Steady
Roaming dog	N/A	100	68	Decreased since 2016
Roaming cat	N/A	96	88	Decreased since 2016
Rabbit	49	40	16	Decreased significantly since 2013.
Fox	49	77	31	Decreased since 2016
Cane toad	140	189	143	Decreased since 2016 but steady
Indian Mynas	65	82	75	Increased
Bell Miners	59	75	57	Decreased since 2016
Eastern quoll	N/A	6	7	Steady
Phascogale	N/A	12	6	Decreased since 2016
Yellow-tailed cockatoo	N/A	132	208	Increased since 2016
Red-tailed cockatoo	N/A	44	35	Decreased since 2016
Glossy black cockatoo	N/A	83	67	Decreased since 2016
Micro bat	114	115	118	Steady
Bandicoot	143	185	133	Decreased since 2016
Dingo	49	54	53	Steady
Fleay's Barred Frog	21	33	N/A	Not included in 2019*
Green Tree Frog	129	149	102	Decreased
Koala	58	63	40	Decreased
Richmond Birdwing Butterfly	20	28	21	Steady **
Sugar Glider	34	33	26	Decreased
Feather tail glider	14	15	20	Increased
Wompoo pigeon	89	108	95	Steady
Lyrebird	13	23	17	Decreased since 2016
Regents Bower Bird	78	76	65	Decreased since 2016
Green Tree Snake	112	127	84	Decreased
Tortoise	67	74	38	Decreased significantly
Red bellied black snake	95	99	34	Decreased significantly
Platypus	43	62	27	Decreased significantly
Pademelon	161	174	156	Decreased since 2016
Echidna	130	146	109	Decreased

Yellow = non-native pest species, or problematic (bell miner) species.

Red = vulnerable, threatened or endangered species.

Pink = koalas - local status unclear but suspected to be vulnerable.

Green = included as indicators of health of local forest and wildlife food sources.

Blue = included as indicators of aquatic health

Comments: We first asked this question in 2013 to establish a local baseline and will continue to do so with the aim of tracking trends in local environmental health. We are using fauna as an indicator of biodiversity, rather than flora, as most people are more familiar with, and able to correctly identify, our local fauna. We provided a picture board for participants with images and descriptions of the animals, birds and reptiles listed, to assist people in the identification process. The list of species is a very small selection from our local area, chosen because of things like vulnerable status, ease of identification, or value as indicators of environmental health for different reasons (see the above legend).

Several species were added in 2016. For example roaming dogs were added in order to ensure people distinguish between dingoes and other wild/roaming dogs. Roaming cats were also added due to the risk they pose to our wildlife.

We also added the quoll and phascogale and the cockatoos due to their endangered or vulnerable status.

The overall decreasing numbers trend in 2019 is partly a reflection of the lower number of respondents compared to 2016. Notwithstanding this, the decline in sightings of aquatic species was significant and reflects the impact of the drought on our environment.

*In 2019 we removed the Fleays Barred Frog due to identification issues and probability of it being confused with the Greater Barred Frog. Both species are now highly vulnerable.

In the last week of November 2019 a mass evacuation of Richmond Birdwing Butterflies from the Nightcap National Park commenced. See **Appendix "A" attached.

See **Appendix B** for the list of localities where the red/pink species were sighted.

SECTION EIGHT: Waste, recycling and plastic

Q20a: Do you currently separate your waste?

Total Responses: 229

Yes: 224

No: 5

Q20b: If Not why not?

off grid and we manage ourselves
Private waste pick up offers 1 bin service only
One bin
We waste nothing. "Waste" is now consumer led laziness as we all know the truth of climate change impacts and our buying of crap must stop! But prefer re-use of "waste" as it is an asset e.g. Road base file etc.

Q21a: Do you use the Return and Earn scheme?

Total Responses: 229

Yes: 99

No: 130

Q21b: If not why not?

The majority of answers were reflective of the nearest Return and Earn depot being in Lismore: “too far, not worth the travel, not worth the 10c return, too complicated, too lazy”.

Other answers included: “do not use bottles which attract the 10c return, I donate mine to a local NGO”, and several people indicated they did not know what the R&E scheme is.

Q22: Do you think waste separation makes a difference?

Total responses: 228

Yes: 189

No: 8

Unsure: 31

Q23: Approximately what percentage of the following plastic waste makes up your general rubbish?

Total responses: 193

Packaging: Average 38.75%, lowest 0%, highest 100%

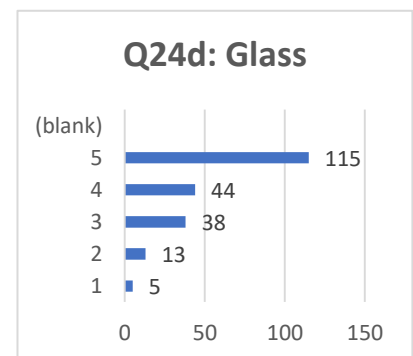
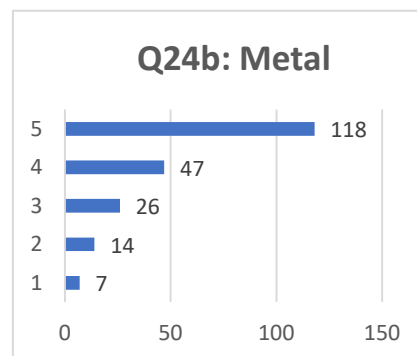
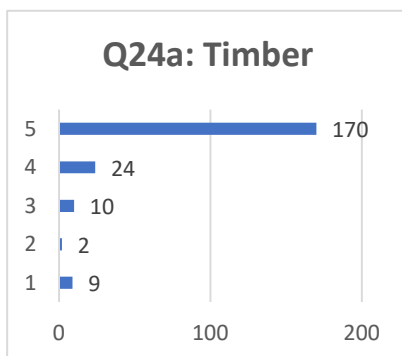
Non-recyclable/contaminated plastic: Average 20.57%, lowest 0%, highest 100%

Personal products (e.g. tooth and hair brushes, cleaning cloths etc.): Average 5.94%, lowest %, highest 60%

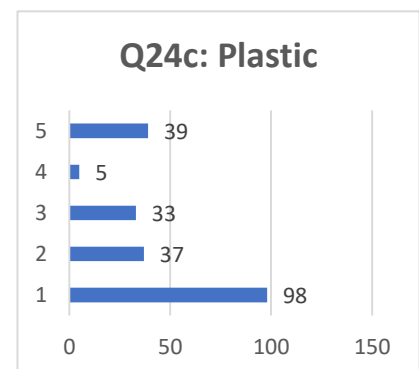
Discarded consumer goods (e.g. broken toys): Average 7.15%, lowest 0%, highest 45%

Other: Average 16.15%, lowest 0%, highest 85%.

Q24: How do you rate (circle your choice) the value of the following resources from 1-5?



Comments: the reason for asking this question was to establish the value attributed to plastic in particular, compared to the other three materials listed. Plastic was given the lowest value by the majority of respondents and timber the greatest value.



Q25: What plastic products could you NOT live without?

***Comments:** feedback from respondents after the survey closed was that they found this question confusing and difficult to answer at the time of completing the survey, as they needed a lot more time to think about it.*

*The long list of products provided by participants indicated this lack of clarity around the question...for example packaging was repeatedly mentioned and many other products that people have difficulty avoiding, rather than contemplating what could be e.g. avoided and replaced with alternate products. The list is attached at **Appendix C**.*

Q26: In the past 6 months:

(a) Have you actively sought alternatives to virgin plastic products?

Total responses: 220

Yes: 167 (76%)

No: 53 (24%)

(b) Did you seek products made from recycled plastics?

Total responses: 217

Yes: 156 (72%)

No: 61 (28%)

(c) What recycled plastic products have you found:

***Comments:** Bags, buckets and building materials were just some of the products listed. For the full list see **Appendix D**.*

SECTION NINE: Questions relating to the performance of NNIC

Q27: Have you heard of any of the following?

Total responses: 214

Nimbin Neighbourhood & Information Centre's services and activities: 194

NIS (Integrated Care Nurse Practitioner who works at NNIC): 96

Sustainable Nimbin Community Plan: 128

Nimbin Community Grain Mill: 94

Nimbin Community Tools & Equipment Library: 127

7 Sibley Street - Nimbin's Sustainable Living Hub: 180

NAG - Nimbin Advisory Group: 122

Nimbin CDAT - Community Drug Action Team: 104

Enova Energy: 130

***Comments:** knowledge of the 7 Sibley St project, the Tools and Equipment Library, Nimbin CDAT and the NAG all increased since 2016. This is likely a reflection of the high levels of activity in these projects in the two years prior to the survey being conducted. Knowledge of all other services remained steady.*

Q28: Have you ever visited our NNIC website?

228 responses. Yes: 104 (46%) No: 124 (54%)

Q29: Have you ever visited our 7 Sibley St website?

226 responses. Yes: 80 (35%) No: 146 (65%)

Comments: engagement with both our websites is higher than in the 2016 survey.

Q30a: Do you think NNIC is doing a good job of consulting with the community?

230 responses.

Yes: 162 (70.3%)

No: 4 (1.7%)

Unsure: 64 (28%)

Trend: satisfaction with NNIC's community consultation has trended upwards overall, with 68% saying yes in 2013, 64% in 2016 and 70.3% in 2019 (Fig. 17).

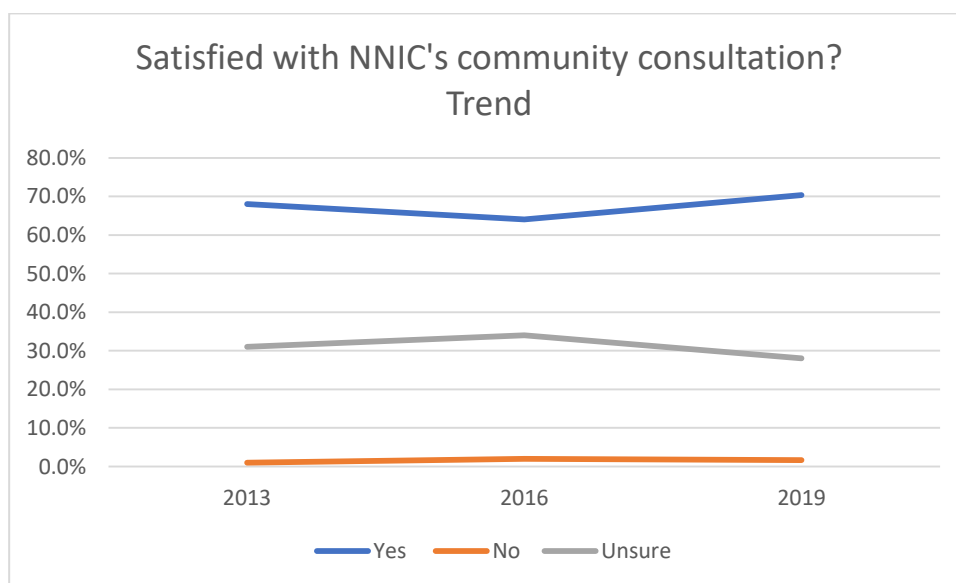


Figure 17

Q30b: Do you think NNIC is doing a good job of: Overseeing the Sustainable Nimbin Community Plan?

224 responses.

Yes: 126 (56% - 55% in 2016)

No: 3 (1% - 2% in 2016)

Unsure: 95 (43% - same in 2016)

Trend: satisfaction with NNIC's stewardship of the SNCP remains steady since 2016, but has trended downwards from 2013 (Fig. 18).

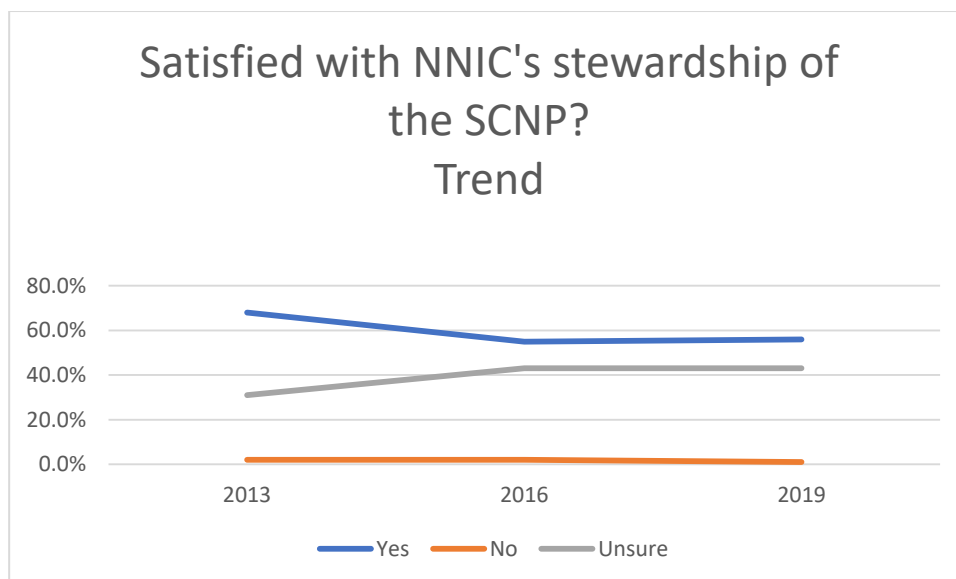


Figure 18

Do you have any further comments?: at the end of the survey people were invited to make any further comments and many people took the opportunity to do so, as follows:

Love
none
Nope
OK OK
great job
love NNIC
Thank you.
Thank you.
Thanks all
Thanks to NNIC
Love your work!
NNIC is great!
Need toilet signs.
get stoned get high
I LOVE BUTTERFLIES.
Keep up the good work.
Keep up the good work.
Doin' a great job y'all X
I wish you a beautiful day.
Some questions were unclear
Thank you for your efforts.
Thanks for all you do. XXX
Thanks for your information.
Need more info so we can learn.
Please give the NNIC more funds.
Thanks for your efforts. Save the forests.

Have heard of you- will investigate further.
Keep on keeping on. Great community service.
nimbin need to sort out drug (ice) problem.
Thank you for reaching out for community feedback 😊
Thank you for looking after Nimbin and surrounding areas
Nimbin town needs more ashtrays and another public toilet.
Keep up the good active involvement within our community. X
keep up the good work in supporting the community.
Thankyou.
I would like a copy of the "Sustainable Nimbin Community Plan"
Nimbin Neighbourhood Centre do an awesome, wonderful, amazing job.
Yes, lucky draw prizes for completing survey's is a good idea.
I hope to be part of Nimbin including courses and Nimbin future
I love coming to Nimbin. Nimbin has a strong sense of community.
Keep up the great work. A great community. Lots doing what they can.
yes me need more positive change less ?????? repression and control
Nimbin Rocks! Love this community and happy contributing any way I can.
I appreciate services, such as photocopying, good vibes and volunteers.
Great job at the show. Very visibly pleasing and informative. Well done.
Disappointed and ???? + poor action against climate change + weed eradication
I'd love to see a free public water bottle refill station for locals and visitors
The neighbourhood centre is invaluable to all people who access services in Nimbin.
I do not have electricity bills as I am off grid. I do not have a waste collection.
Thanks for being so active and involved in furthering the well-being of our community.
I wish Nimbin could do massive weed reduction and native plantings in village environs.
I am often out of Nimbin, otherwise would be much more involved in Community activities.
Need more jobs in the area, we will probably need to move somewhere else because of this.
I would encourage monthly town hall gatherings to share food, music, dance and conversation.
More public transport for nimbin. Nimbin to/from Lismore. More co-housing for low income earners.
Would love to get milk in glass returnable bottles at the emporium. Apparently barrambah does it.
All paper waste from my work I am shredding and using as mulch and composting. 1-2 garbage bags a week.
Happily a lot of the positive answers are because of the way of life educated for years by the community.
I love your work which makes our community more functional, healthy, cared for, our go to for lots of LOVE.
Sack our bungling Lismore City Councillors, appoint an administrator and begin a citizen initiated referenda.
It was difficult to judge the percentage of waste products but I have my bins put out once every 4-5 months.
Can get info from 7 Sibley or NNIC. Choose to live without computer or smartphone, want to limit radiation in my house.

Question 24 is ambiguous...does it mean what products are more valuable to me, or as recyclable products? I answered as me.

Regarding electricity supply, a section or option for those of us 'off grid' could be used also for grey water, sewerage etc.

So grateful for all that NNIC does for the community, the team there has been supportive to me especially Kath she's amazing.

I think ALL agencies get together have a better flow of information, NOT have just a few. Everyone has something to contribute.

Thanks, I'm often at NNIC on computers and hear the respectful and caring way staff & vols help the community. Amazingly Fantastic.

I support ventures of circular economics which revitalise village economy, environments - social, cultural and sustainable for critters of all ilk.

Since arriving here I've put in a decade & 1/2 of time effort and \$\$\$\$. Now I'm tired and can't work and worn out. I now do what I can, as much as I can, to bush regeneration , conservation and love of mother earth.

Would like more activity in the middle of town - rebuilding of shops etc. Another set of public toilets (at Skate Park). The light installations should of reached the end of town and either side - only the middle of town benefited from those - the end shop

I love the NNIC and the people who run it, always feel welcome. The service and vibe is heart warming and rare in this day and age. The sustainability project is inspiring and reassuring. Shame the world at large doesn't share the same vision, motivation and caring.

Appendix A

Addendum to Richmond Birdwing Butterfly data – mass sightings reported in early December 2019 during the Mt Nardi bushfire event

We began tracking sightings of the RBB in 2013 and each survey there was little change in the small number of reported sightings at around 20 sightings each time. Since 2013 we have asked community members to report any sightings outside of the survey periods and to send in any pictures. In all those years we have only ever received a couple of reports ever, generally from the same people, a single photo and two dead ones have been brought into NNIC to show us. Indeed the Manager of NNIC, who is responsible for overseeing the NNIC RBB project, had never seen a live RBB in her life until December 2019.

On 4th December 2019 the first report came in that several RBBS had been sighted at the Nimbin Rox Backpackers ...where they had never been reported as being seen before. The next day hundreds of them were seen at Hensen Road and Crofton Road, again where they had never been seen before.

On 5th December the Manager of NNIC posted on Nimbin Hookups (local Face Book group) asking for people to report sightings and send in photos. Within 5 minutes there were about 30 posts. By the end of the day there were almost 70 responses. People began to send in pictures and some of them are attached below. There were thousands of butterflies sighted all around the Nimbin catchment area, including in the village itself, like never before.

Advice from various butterfly experts indicate that the butterflies were most likely forced to flee the forest in search of food and to escape the fire and smoke.

The RBBs mass evacuation event is of considerable concern. The full extent of the impact on the local population is unknown. It is unknown how many of the butterflies made it back to their vines in the forest to lay their eggs, nor indeed how many of the vines survived the bushfire and drought. Many people reported seeing them mating and laying eggs in various plants (none of which would sustain the larvae which would die upon hatching). The species may require local assistance to recover from the bushfire and drought events of 2019.

The following locations were among the sightings (not everyone who reported a sighting identified their location, unfortunately),

Hetherington Rd Barkersvale
McClellands Rd, Barkersvale
Barkersvale
Blue Knob Rd
Cadell Rd, Mt Burrell
Collins Creek
Crofton Rd
Gabal Rd
Green Pigeon
Gungas Rd
Mountain Top
Mt Burrell
Mt Nardi

Mt Kunghur
Nimbin village – Thorburn St, Cecil St, Cullen St, Alternative Way
Rainbow Ridge School
Sibley St
Sphinx Rocks Café
Stoney Chute
Terania Creek
Wadeville
Websters Creek
Whitney Rd

***See the following page for some of the RBB pics sent in to NNIC between 5th-12th
December 2019***



Appendix B – List of Locations where Red/Pink species sighted

21 Richmond birdwing sightings	40 Koala sightings	17 Lyrebird sightings	35 Glossy black cockatoo sightings	35 Red-tailed cockatoo sightings	6 Phascogale sightings	7 quoll sightings
<i>Not stated</i>	<i>Not stated</i>	<i>Bishop Creek</i>	<i>Not stated</i>	<i>Not stated</i>	<i>Lillian Rock</i>	<i>Not stated</i>
<i>Blue Knob</i>	<i>Not stated</i>	<i>Blue Knob</i>	<i>Not stated</i>	<i>Not stated</i>	<i>Mountain Top</i>	<i>Barkers Vale</i>
<i>Byrrill Creek</i>	<i>Not stated</i>	<i>Blue Knob</i>	<i>Not stated</i>	<i>Not stated</i>	<i>Mt Burrell</i>	<i>Nimbin</i>
<i>Coffee Camp</i>	<i>Avalon</i>	<i>Blue Knob</i>	<i>Not stated</i>	<i>Not stated</i>	<i>Mt Wollumbin</i>	<i>Gungas Rd.</i>
<i>Jarlanbah</i>	<i>Barkers Vale</i>	<i>Coffee Camp</i>	<i>Not stated</i>	<i>Barkers Vale</i>	<i>Mt Wollumbin</i>	<i>Thorburn St</i>
<i>Lillian Rock</i>	<i>Barkers Vale</i>	<i>Coffee Camp</i>	<i>Not stated</i>	<i>Billen Cliffs</i>	<i>Tuntable Falls</i>	<i>Nimbin</i>
<i>Lillian Rock</i>	<i>Barkers Vale</i>	<i>Coffee Camp</i>	<i>Not stated</i>	<i>Bishop Creek</i>		<i>Blue Knob</i>
<i>Mt Burrell</i>	<i>Billen Cliffs</i>	<i>Gungas Rd.</i>	<i>Not stated</i>	<i>Blue Knob</i>		<i>Sphinx Rock turnoff</i>
<i>Mt Wollumbin</i>	<i>Blue Knob</i>	<i>Gungas Road</i>	<i>Barkers Vale</i>	<i>Blue Knob</i>		
<i>Mt Wollumbin 2484</i>	<i>Blue Knob</i>	<i>Jarlanbah</i>	<i>Billen Cliffs</i>	<i>Blue knob</i>		
<i>Mt. Burrell</i>	<i>Blue Knob</i>	<i>Larnook</i>	<i>Blue Knob</i>	<i>Blue Knob</i>		
<i>Newton Drive</i>	<i>Blue Knob</i>	<i>Lillian Rock</i>	<i>Blue Knob</i>	<i>Crofton Rd.</i>		
<i>Nimbin</i>	<i>Byrrill Creek</i>	<i>Lillian Rock</i>	<i>Blue Knob</i>	<i>Crofton Rd.</i>		
<i>Nimbin</i>	<i>Casino</i>	<i>Mt Wollumbin</i>	<i>Blue Knob</i>	<i>Gungas Rd.</i>		
<i>Nimbin Rocks</i>	<i>Cawongla</i>	<i>Newton Drive</i>	<i>Blue Knob</i>	<i>Jiggi</i>		
<i>Stony Chute</i>	<i>Coffee Camp</i>	<i>Nimbin Rocks</i>	<i>Blue Knob</i>	<i>Lillian Rock</i>		
<i>Tuntable Creek</i>	<i>Coffee Camp</i>	<i>Sphinx Rock turnoff</i>	<i>Blue Knob</i>	<i>Lillian Rock</i>		
<i>Nimbin</i>	<i>Stony Chute</i>		<i>Lillian Rock</i>	<i>Lillian Rock</i>		
<i>Nimbin Rocks</i>	<i>Tuntable Creek</i>		<i>Lillian Rock</i>	<i>Mt Wollumbin</i>		
<i>Stony Chute</i>	<i>Tuntable Falls</i>		<i>Lillian Rock</i>	<i>Mt Wollumbin</i>		

				2484		
<i>Tuntable Creek</i>	<i>Tuntable Falls</i>		<i>Lillian Rock</i>	<i>Nimbin</i>		
<i>Tuntable Falls</i>	<i>Wadeville</i>		<i>Lillian Rock</i>	<i>Nimbin</i>		
<i>Tuntable Falls</i>	<i>Wadeville</i>		<i>Mt Wollumbin</i>	<i>Nimbin</i>		
<i>Tuntable Falls</i>	<i>Wadeville</i>		<i>Mt Wollumbin</i>	<i>Nimbin</i>		
			<i>Tuntable Falls</i>	<i>Nimbin Rd.</i>		
			<i>Tuntable</i>	<i>Nimbin Rocks</i>		
			<i>Wadeville</i>	<i>Outside Nimbin</i>		
			<i>Wadeville</i>	<i>Rock Valley</i>		
				<i>Sphinx Rock turnoff</i>		
				<i>Stony Chute</i>		
				<i>Stony Chute</i>		
				<i>Tuntable Creek</i>		
				<i>Tuntable Falls</i>		
				<i>Tuntable</i>		
				<i>Tyalgum</i>		

Appendix C: What Plastic Products Could You NOT live without?

Electrical (fuses, wiring), irrigation (piping and fittings), organic pest control sprayer, reading glass frames, computer keyboard keys and parts, vehicle interior parts, hot/green house fabrics	Bags, water bottle	Incontinence pads
Hard reusable plastic containers made from recycle; plastic that is used in mobile phone and cars (until they replace it with hemp fibre (again in the case of cars).	Freezer containers	Rescue stretchers
Dental floss. Our organic milk, unfortunately comes in plastic, but would prefer a carton. Some medications come in plastic...would prefer if they didn't.	Irrigation, crates	6 pack packaging
So many food products are packaged in plastic but I would prefer compostable organic alternative packaging	keyboard and mouse	Medicine bottles
the interior of my car, the keys on my laptop and mouse, the lids on my containers	storage containers	Toothbrush, bags
I could do without them but food laws mean some food comes wrapped in plastic.	bottles, wrapping	Food containers
Cling wrap (for packaging meat). A lot of packaging is hard to avoid.	electrical wiring	milk containers
scourers kept clean and dry may last me up to a year	Electrical wiring	Milk Containers
Short term storage containers, soft cooking utensils	electrical wiring	Milk containers
Things that aren't made of more natural materials	Open to non plastic packaging	Milk Containers
stickers, bios, spectacles, storage containers	Hose for the garden thats it!	Milk containers
hard to buy products without all the packaging	Fridge containers, Glad Wrap	plastic bottles
wheelie bin, electric toothbrush, hair brush	Milk, juice, meat containers	stupid question
Products that come pre packed using plastic	glad wrap, water in bottles	Tampon wrappers
Can't think but hemp could be substituted.	Kids toys, buckets, pots,	wide and varied
plumbing pipe, shade cloth, hard storage	tool handles, vehicle bits	snap lock bags

Bread wrappers part paper part plastic	Phone, remotes, hairbrush	Poly pipe
Would like to do without all plastics	bags glad wrap Styrofoam	Poly pipe
Water proof food storage containers	Nail brush, mobile phone	catheter
Mil bottles, would love glass ones	plastic bags for rubbish	Fuel Can
Irrigation, pens, storage crates	food storage containers	Not sure
plastic bags to keep veges fresh	Food storage containers	not sure
Open to non-plastic packaging	? All of them	Buckets
Hose for the garden that' it!	food packaging	Buckets
Fridge containers, Glad Wrap	Most of them.	buckets
Milk, juice, meat containers	food package	nothing
glad wrap, water in bottles	freezer bags	records
Kids toys, buckets, pots,	freezer bags	storage
tool handles, vehicle bits	garbage bags	A few
Phone, remotes, hairbrush	Garbage bags	Gloves
bags glad wrap Styrofoam	Most of them	tarps
Nail brush, mobile phone	bubble wrap	vinyl
plastic bags for rubbish	CD, glasses	Bags
food storage containers	eye glasses	cars
Food storage containers	Power tools	Lots
Guitar plectrums, paint	Toilet seat	pens
hard to avoid packaging	Tooth paste	none
Electrical insulation	Cling Wrap	None
Vegie bags for fridge.	cling wrap	none
water drums, poly pipe	Cling wrap	none
could do without most	cling wrap	None
take away/white goods	Containers	All
unsure, tooth floss?	Containers	all
earphones for music	containers	all
Electric toothbrush	large milk	None
Get rid of them all	Lid opener	None
pens and eyeglasses	Toothbrush	All of them
packaging	water jugs	none

Appendix D: What Recycled Plastic Products have you found?

Not sure about the environmental impacts of recycling, would prefer to find natural non plastic alternatives	shampoo bottle, water bottle	Bollards, decking
I bought a backpack made out of recycled plastic, bottles	Some packaging and furniture	Nimbin Co-op bags
bio degradable snap lock bags (I think recycled plastic)	Building and road materials	Polar fleece tops
biodegradable bags vs compostable, plastic timber	paper bags, hats, packaging	Bags, rugs, mats
shoes, bags, bottles, storage, bricks (building)	shopping bags + packaging	genera com goods
Packaging bottles made for recycling materials.	take away food containers	Not much really.
Reused glass products, reused plastic products	clothes, water bottles,	bottles, clothes
plastic cups - usually juices or muesli cups	Rags made of old bottles	outdoor setting
Cleaning product containers @ The Emporium.	Some packing materials.	eco-coffee cups
The floor on the verandah at the Bowlo.	Shopping bags, ute mats	plastic pallets
We haven't seen any, but we would use.	Garden stakes, eco-pens	Shopping bags
Not really a fan of recycled products	toothbrushes, sneakers	Thongs , bags
plastic coated tea bags, milk cartons	Benches, road material	Shopping Bags
bamboo plates, fork and knives, hemp	green bags/cloth bags	Shopping bags
platesmade of recycled milk bottles	meal containers, bags	bottles, pots
plastic and sawdust decking boards	Bags, buckets, chairs	adidas shoes
Bottles, containers for reuse etc	outdoor rugs and mats	Shopping bag
bench seats, 3d printer filament	bottles, shoes, hat	paper, glass
non packaged veg in supermarket	hemp stone products	Nearly none
shorts made from water bottles	household products	eco-decking
Hard large storage containers	Recycled driveway?	Cups at SCU
structural timber replacement	toys, mats, baskets	eco-decking
Dishwashing liquid containers	out door furniture	Plant pots
We recycle as much as we can	eco-decking	Carry bags
vege bags	Plant pots	Plant pots

Glad wrap	Carry bags	Plant pots
Gardening	Plant pots	Toothbrush
none yet	Plant pots	Not many
not sure	Toothbrush	vege bags
Bin bags	Not many	Glad wrap
Gardening	bottles	None
none yet	Decking	Tent
not sure	Modwood	Hats
Bin bags	Bottles	Pegs
Clothing	Unsure	jars