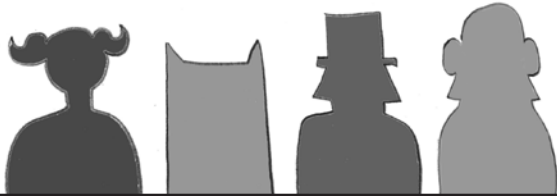


SOFTYS CLUBHOUSE NEWSLETTER

AUGUST 2019

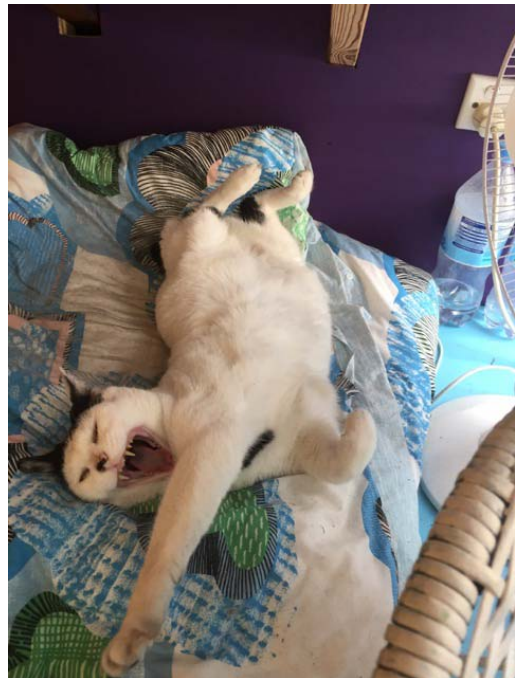


If you've been camped outside Softys since April, waiting for the next newsletter, finally here's our August NEWSLETTER!!!

Woulda shoulda coulda released May, June and July newsletters, but I've been a bit busy and so assigned this task to Party. For those who haven't met her, Party is a cat and so approaches her responsibilities with calm and confident neglect.

rachel xx

get in touch if u wanna help put together the September newsletter ~ cats need not apply



PARTY BUSY NOT MEETING HER PUBLISHING DEADLINES FOR MAY, JUNE AND JULY.



WHAT'S ON...

Time travellers... welcome. Some of the things here have already happened and some are yet to happen. We'll moosh em all together and see if you can make sense of it.

MAGIC MEDDLERS MARKET

Ali Grace started up the Magic Meddlers Market at Softys. This is a monthly market held on the last Sunday of the month to coincide with the Wickham Markets across the road. The first one was on June 30th. The next one is on August 25th. It features lots of art, interesting handmade, creative and wellbeing type stuff.

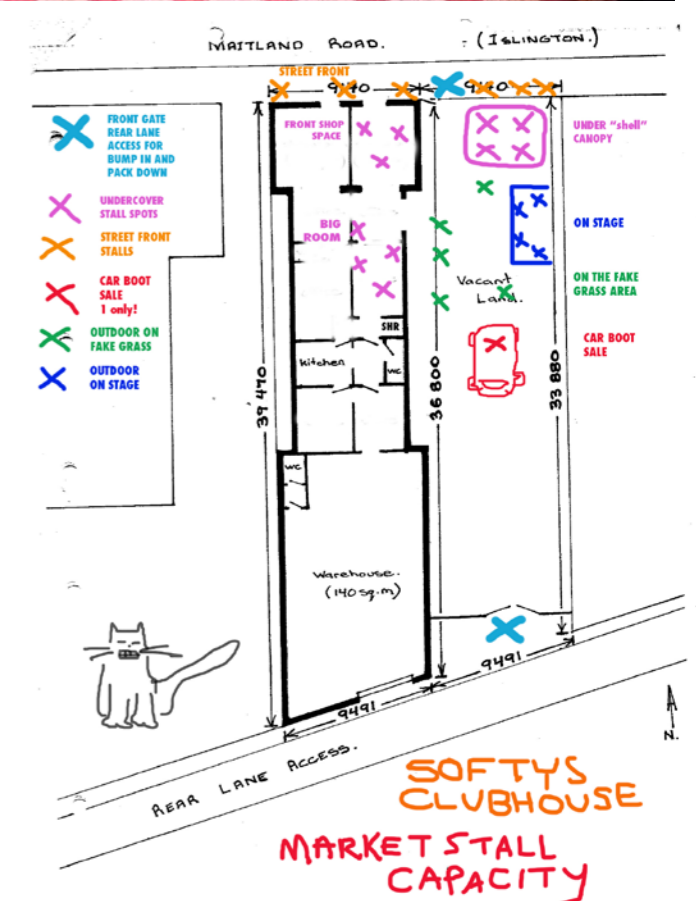
Ali has buggered off to help save the sacred trees of the Djap Wurrung (*more about this later) and Nick Grinpukel has taken over - but we're looking at forming an organising group made up of keen stallholders, so one human doesn't have to do everything. If you're interested in getting involved come along on Sunday. Not too late to squeeze in with a stall either. MSG on the FB event page to reserve a space.



MARKET POSTER BY MAIRA WILKES



MARKET PHOTOS ALPHA SIERRA PHOTOGRAPHY ~ thanks Alyssa xx <https://alphasierrastudio.com>



STALLHOLDER PROFILE : Julia Jay

Describe your medium: I believe in magic, each piece of my art is an expression of a world my mind lives in. I specialise in intricate black and white pen art and have recently also started delving into a world of colour. I sell Prints of my works at markets ranging from A3, A4, A5 (framed and unframed), gift cards, and moon stickers :)

What has lead you to choosing this path? Passion (obviously) but what triggered the unraveling of this path was pain- I severely injured myself at work (hospitality job) and had a few others things happen at the same time which lead me to question - What truly made me happy? The Answer was art. Since quitting my hospitality a year ago, I now fill every corner of my time with creativitvly expressing myself. I do markets, run workshops, have a scholarship at the Roost Creative, commissions and anything else that my heart pulls me towards. This path is one that growing up I never thought was possible, so I am constantly SO grateful and excited to see where else it can go :)

Describe your creative Process: New ideas I usually get from being outside, dancing, or even while drawing, I get ideas float through my mind, I have a huge notebook I always keep with me to jot down ANY passing thoughts because a small idea one day could be a huge idea for later down the track :) Refining your practice I think it's literally just practice, and a passion to want to refine it. I always just liked to doodle in the side of my school books, then I guess it just kinda escalated from there :) I think pens are a relatively easy thing to easily build up practice because you can take them anywhere! Like painting you kind of have to set up a space/water etc.

CHECK OUT JULIA JAY'S WORK: https://www.instagram.com/julia__jay/



STALLHOLDER PROFILE : Dale Forward

Describe your medium: I like to create detailed fantasy pieces using ink pens and I also like to push technology and cutting edge mediums in my art to further enhance them - like 3D glasses, lights and other digital technologies recently like websites, apps and augmented reality.

What has lead to you choosing this path?

Making art to me is how I feel I am meant to live. I have chosen this path because I believe it's what life has chosen for me. I don't think I could really do much else but it has taught me many skills in all areas and I believe it has made me a greater person overall.

Describe your creative process: I usually have an idea or get inspired by a conversation with someone. If I can imagine it I know I can create it but I also have to consider what it will become, if it's neither going to be something that can be sold as an actual product or something so amazing that it doesn't blow my mind and I want to see myself then I wont do it. I make my art with the intention of bettering the community and so I want to give them experiences and quality works that they can own. My skills in my art were given by the nature around me and I feel its only natural to use those skills to give back to nature and the people in it. My focus in artmaking is always trying to be in tune with the perceptive mind. I try to ask questions like, what should the piece make you feel? What does it relate to in a persons life? How does it relate to beauty and an appreciation for life?



DALE FORWARD PHOTOS : pinched off the internet

CHECK OUT DALE FORWARD'S WORK:

www.daleforward.com, @dfartwork - facebook, @dfart2287 - instagram

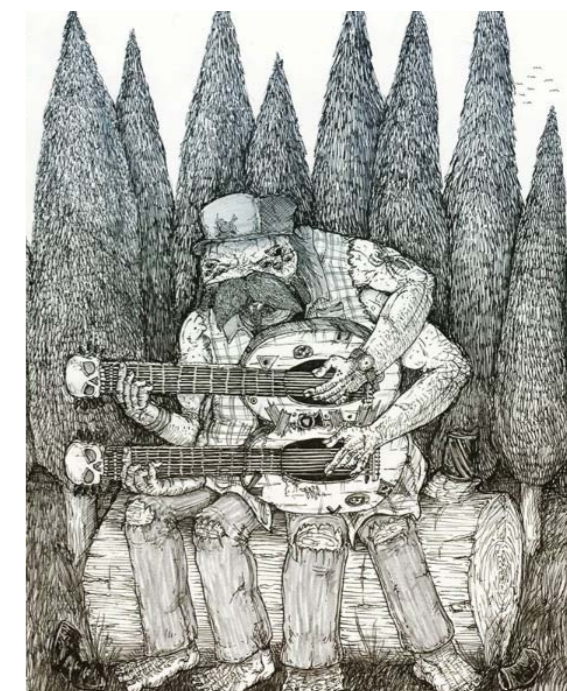
NEXT MARKET
SUNDAY AUGUST 25th
come along ya nongs xx

MARKET MARKETING

Jenna Picken is a local artist who works in graphic design and marketing. She is helping to raise the profile of our stallholders by presenting a short profile about them and their work - like the one above. Hopefully sharing profiles like this across social media will draw customers to featured creators and also boost our market overall. If you're a stallholder, stick your hand up and wave it about a bit and Jenna will pick you next :)

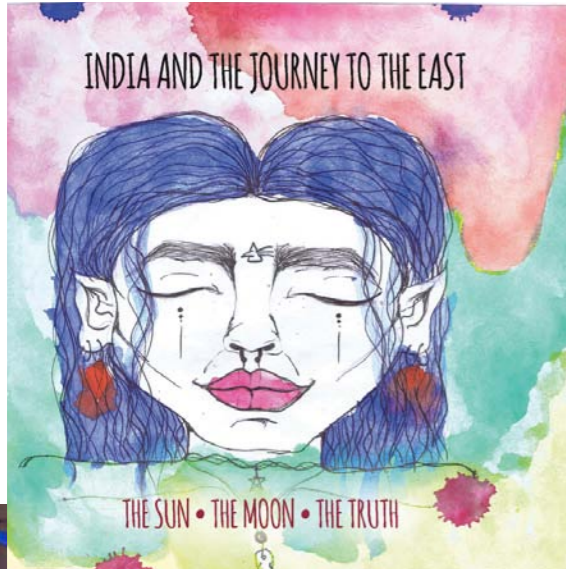
~ thanks Jenna

<https://pippincreative.myportfolio.com/nice-to-meet-you>

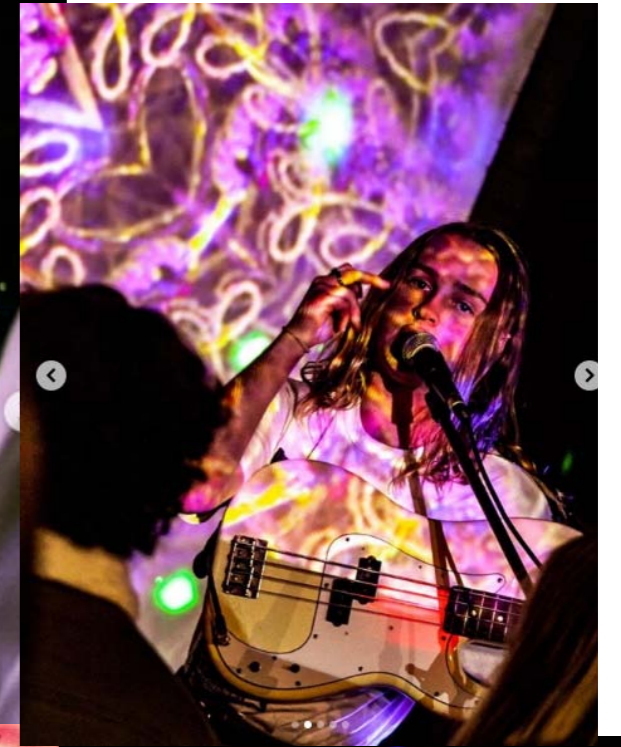
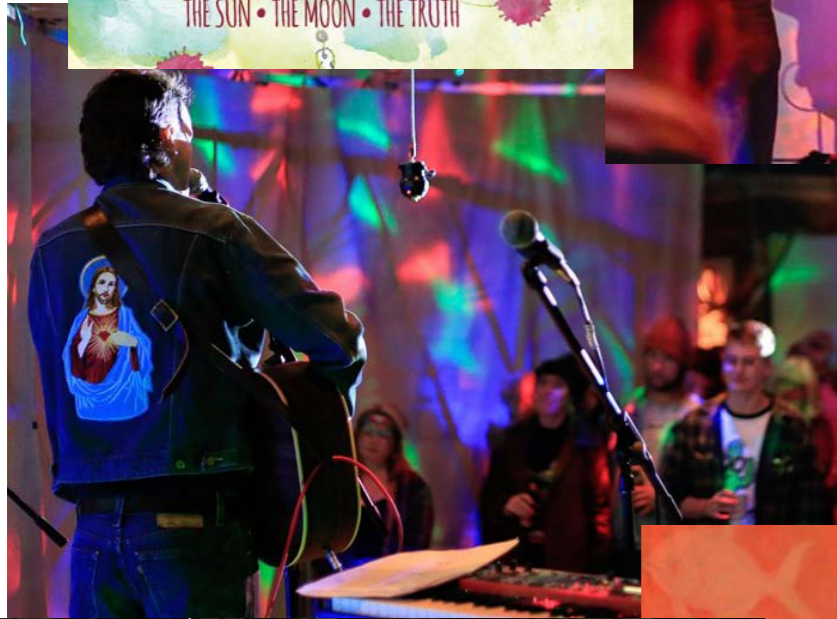


MUSIC EVENTS

- India and the Journey to the East EP Launch June 15
- Alter Ego and Friends July 26



INDIA GIG PHOTOS: ALPHA SIERRA PHOTOGRAPHY ~ thanks Alyssa xx
<https://alphasierrastudio.com>



ALTER EGO AND FRIENDS GIG PHOTOS: TARA CAMPBELL PHOTOGRAPHY ~ thanks Tara xx
<https://www.facebook.com/taracampbellphotographyaus/>

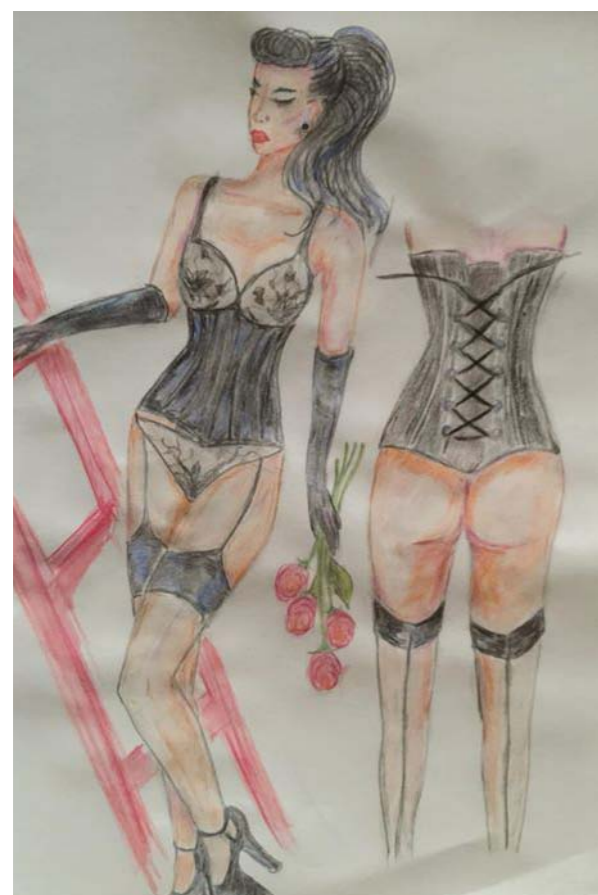
ART EVENTS

- Dr Sketchys
- Pleasant Trees
- eARTh by Mother Nature
- For Your Eyes Only

DR SKETCHYS NEWCASTLE

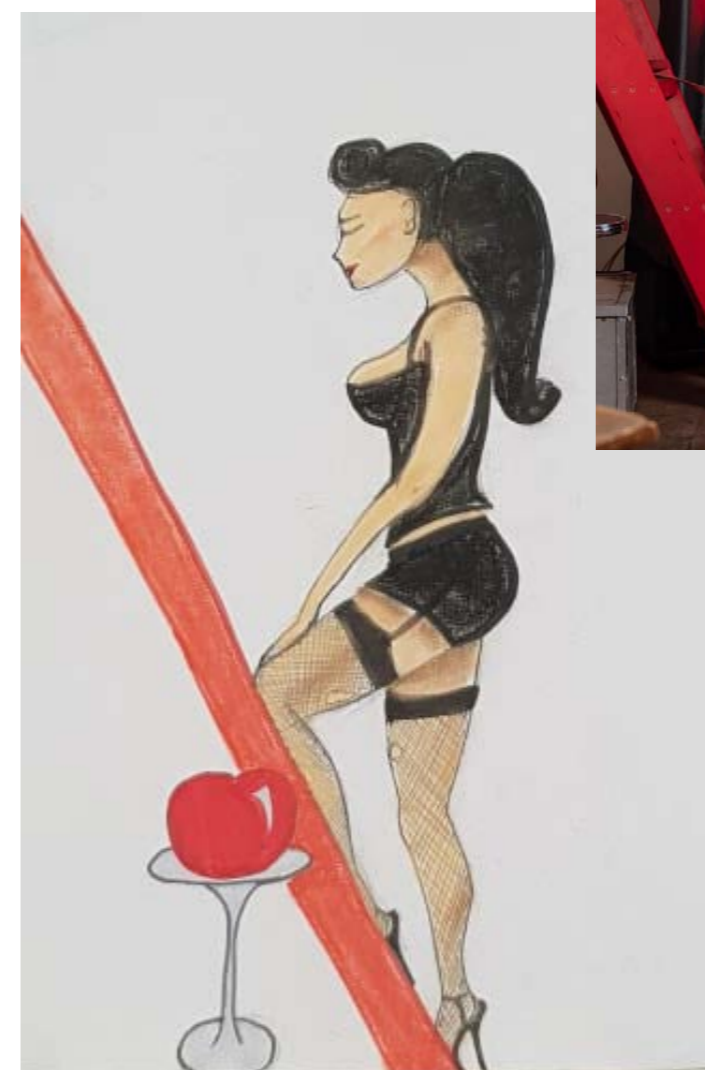
Dr Sketchys Newcastle is run by Ana Seethe. She has hosted the event here at Softys Clubhouse every couple of months for the past year. Here are a few words from Ana...

"We are building a really fun community of Art Monkeys at our Dr Sketchy's Newcastle Anti-Art Classes. We recently held An Afternoon of Pinup Noir with local Burlesque performers Vivienne Rose and Berlin Von Black. It was so much fun and the sketches were incredible.



Local photographer, Jamie, from Studio DC3 Photography generously donated his time to produce these incredible shots from the afternoon. Even Clover got in on the action.

Our next Dr Sketchy's Newcastle Sunday Session will be held on Sunday October 13th from 3:30pm to 5:45pm and as it is nearing Halloween, Ana Seethe, Headmistress, has recruited one of her talented Sydney Burlesque Friends to roadtrip up North to display her incredible costuming skills... think feathers, scale armour and the Alien movies... In Space No One Can Hear Your Scream!"



PHOTOS : Studio DC3 Photography
Drawing this page by Zillah Jas, drawing
prev page Sian Walker.

PLEASANT TREES


Sebastian Winter and Jerry Ray launched their new zine "Pleasant Trees" at Softys Clubhouse on August 16th. It's true and here are some photos to prove it. All photos were stolen off the internet and I forgot where from. Sorry.



From a strictly limited edition of 70, a small number of these zines remain and can be purchased with munny.

Stalk Jerry Ray in the internets and find out how.

PLEASANT TREES
 Zine Launch @SOFTYS
 // 6pm // 16 AUG //
 All proceeds to
DJAB WURRUNG EMBASSY
 working tirelessly to
 protect their sacred trees



A lot of things happened at this zine launch. Zackari Watt sang, as did Yziouz Falcon. There were games, competitions, a conga line. At some point they crammed 20 people in the bathroom, because reasons. A fun time was had by all.



 A collage featuring a central image of the 'Pleasant Trees' zine cover. Surrounding it are several quotes from people:

- "I'm actually amazed by this quality content I've produced." - Sebastian Winter (Proud book daddy)
- "I would rather read this zine than do something boring." - Lady Tree Car (Avid reader)
- "There's something in here for everyone." - Lu Quade (Local fisherman)
- "This is really good. You guys have levelled up." - Lady Law (Lady of the law)



After everybody left, Louie The Sheep tidied up after the fairy bread people.

Sorry there aren't more photos - turns out you did really have to be there.

BUT WAIT, THERE'S MORE...

- Djab Wurrung Embassy
- #adanithefacts
- update about Softys Diner DA
- Softys Clubhouse AGM

DJAP WURRUNG EMBASSY - Ali Grace

Ali Grace started up the Magic Meddlers Market at Softys Clubhouse in June. Now she is down in Victoria, supporting the Djab Wurrung Embassy. At Softys Clubhouse, one of the Objects of our Association is to support Aboriginal Sovereignty. Here's a message from Ali...

"Last Saturday I went to the Djab Wurrung Protect Embassy. We were greeted by DT at top camp, who brought us into the main camp undercover area to warm up a little. In the recent winds and rain a lot had been moved around and pushed over. I asked DT if he needed help picking stuff up, but he said he would just wait until most of the rough weather had passed. It is mid August and the Djab Wurrung embassy has just been served an eviction notice - Vic Roads and police are said to evict protectors of these 800 year old sacred trees in the weeks to come. I can see that there is a lot of support here for the Djab Wurrung people, so I hope enough can show up to kick the cops out and hold on to sacred ground. I am bewildered and deeply ashamed at the necessity to fight for protection of sacred sites. Alternative routes have been negotiated, rejected and all for two fucking minutes saved on the truckers clock."



Here is an update on what is happening and how you can keep updated, find out more info and lend your support."

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DJAP WURRUNG EMBASSY UPDATE

Djab Wurrung Embassy near Ararat, Central Victoria is an ongoing camp to protect sacred birthing trees and cultural sites of the Djab Wurrung people. Their protection relies upon a strong community of people who are able to help at camp, hold space and keep on surviving despite the push of industrial capitalism and indigenous cultural genocide.

The trees are under threat of destruction from Vic Roads who want to extend a highway, saving two minutes travel time.



EVICTIION NOTICE

has been served to the camp for the 21st AUG 2019 so this is a critical time to SHOW SUPPORT.

How can you help? You can visit the camp, donate to the embassy and call Vicroads and the politicians responsible for these actions:

Victorian Premier: Daniel Andrews
daniel.andrews@parliament.vic.gov.au
Phone: (03) 9651 5000

Victorian Planning Minister: Richard Wynne
richard.wynne@parliament.vic.gov.au
Phone: (03) 9415 8901

Victorian Transport Minister: Jacinta Allan
Phone: 03 8392 6100
jacinta.allan@parliament.vic.gov.au

Grant Deebie (project manager at VicRoads):
Phone 1300 779 642 and request Grant Deebie

Major Road Projects Victoria
1800 105 105 (press option 5 for major road works enquiries)

VIC Roads
13 11 71 and 13 11 70
<https://www.vicroads.vic.gov.au/contact-us/feedback-and-enquiry>

Gavin Dennings: South Eastern Metropolitan Electorate
Special Minister of State, Minister for Priority Precincts, Minister for Aboriginal Affairs, Leader of the Government in the Legislative Council
gavin.jennings@parliament.vic.gov.au
(03) 9548 5644

Sign and share the Change.org petition to Daniel Andrews

Post and share your actions on social media, use #NoTreesNoTreaty hashtag

Search 'Djab Wurrung Heritage Protection Embassy' on facebook to keep updated.

Instagram: dwembassy
Visit the website <http://dwembassy.com/> (Links to templates for emails to politicians are found under the 'come to camp' link on the website).

#ADANITHEFACTS

When you live in the real world, facts matter. A bunch of us at Softys Clubhouse did some research into the Adani mine. We couldn't find one single benefit to Australians or indeed humanity in the development of this mine.

There are not 10,000 jobs attached to this project. There are 100. And this mine threatens 65,000 tourism jobs attached to the Great Barrier Reef and 12,500 other coal based jobs across Australia by tanking the coal price once it starts producing. Mining the Galilee Basin would emit 705million tonnes of carbon dioxide into the atmosphere each year, 1.3 times Australia's current emissions from all other sources.

Adani will lead to massive destruction of a valuable remnant ecosystem, endangering wildlife and birds, including the black throated finch, a previously common bird which has already been pushed to the brink of extinction through agricultural expansion. Areas sacred to the Wangan and Jagalingou people, including the ancient Doongmabulla Springs face destruction. Unlimited access to groundwater has been granted, despite 65% of Queensland being drought declared. The Queensland Government doesn't even have a royalty deal in place, yet has given the go-ahead for land clearing, with absolutely no financial benefit yet established.

We did our homework, we found a bunch of facts and researched and fact-checked the bejeebers outta these facts. We invited Newcastle Greens councillor John Mackenzie to introduce our series of Adani fact videos. Thanks JMac.

Fairy stories are all well and good for fun times, but in serious matters, a government should be accessing the best scientists and economists available and then following their advice to serve us. Instead, they are blindly delivering for Adani and we can't find any good reason why.

Facts matter.
#adanithefacts

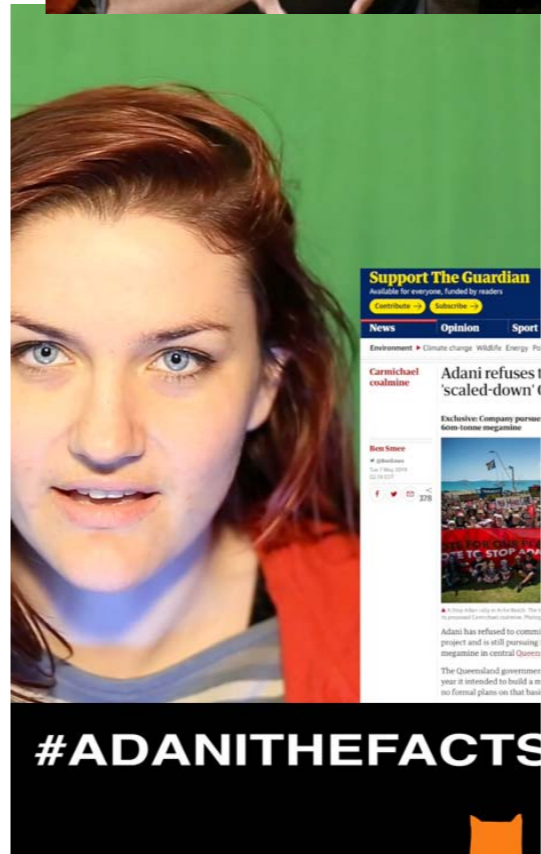
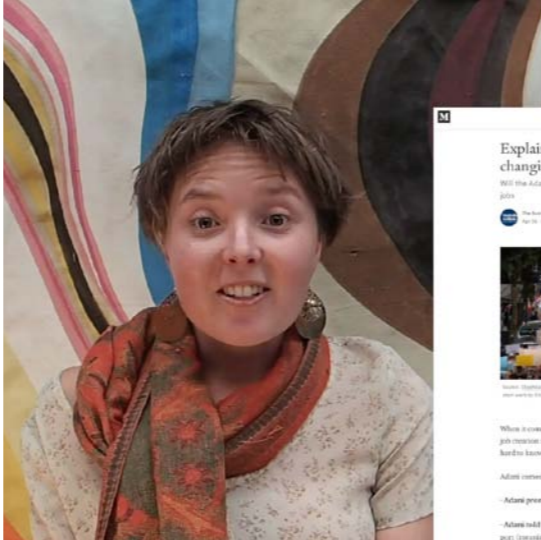
You can view all the videos on the Softys Clubhouse FB page, Instagram or on our Vimeo channel. They're high resolution on Vimeo and you can see our fact checking references. As a fact-checking protocol, we sourced all our information from reputable news organisations who have a policy of correcting errors. Where we found a fact initially from an activist source, we found an additional source. None of the activist facts we followed up on were inaccurate. Some of the facts we present relate to information where situations have developed since, but the facts themselves are correct and still relevant in the overall story.

PRODUCTION CREDITS

music by Brendan St Ledger
Produced by Softys Clubhouse
production team : Otto Reitano, Alyssa Salamon, Dave Fulham, Pawel Jarecki, Tegan Lamb, Rachel King, Jerry Ray, Sage Scott, Matrika Suntra, Harry Su, Lucky Harvey ~ thanks to all
<https://vimeo.com/softysclubhouse>



VIDEO PRESENTERS : This page
Clockwise from top left; Lucky Harvey, Tegan Lamb, Jerry Ray, Matrika Suntra, John Mackenzie Previous page; Harry Su and Sage Scott



Matrika Suntra (left)
"Recently I got involved in a project which is very important to me. The proposed Adani mine is shrouded in lies and misinformation. The aim of this project was to state the true facts, the numbers and statistics, to rip off the veil that Adani is trying to pull over the public's head.

Before I got involved in this project, I was already deeply opposed to the mine. But the more I and others researched and learnt about the cold hard facts, the more horrified I became by the corruption of both our government and Adani, by the appalling effect the mine would have on the working class and how many jobs would be lost, by the shady and horrible practices of Adani and how much of our world they've already laid waste to, by the national financial injury our government will allow by letting this mine go ahead, but most of all, deeply disgusted by the disregard for life on earth and all future generations.

These facts make very clear that there is absolutely no benefit to this mine except to grease the pockets of the rich.

Oh I could go on, but I'll stop here and let the videos and facts speak for themselves. Whether you don't know much about the mine and would like to become educated, or you are already opposed and would like to learn the facts to help you educate others, these videos are certainly worth watching.

By spreading awareness and real information, we can make a difference, so please, share, share, share, share!"

SOFTYS DINER UPDATE from Jamie

Howdy cats! Here is a brief update on our DA and an explanation why it is taking so long.

We lodged our DA late December 2018 for a new building in the vacant lot at 20 Maitland rd Islington. March 2019 Newcastle city council announced to the public their West End Stage 2 Streetscape Plan (<https://newcastle.nsw.gov.au/Have-Your-Say/Projects/West-End-Stage-2-Streetscape-Plan>). To summarise they propose to reduce Maitland rd to 2 lanes, upgrade the bus stop and move it directly out the front of our proposed café, improve parking and introduce a dual cycleway taking up 2m of the 4m wide footpath.

What this essentially means is we lose all use of the footpath for café seating and now have to deal with a noisy diesel bus engine! I attended their drop in session not only give positive feedback that we think the plan is wonderful, but also to address my concern that relocating the bus stop directly out front will have a negative impact on us. I asked if it was possible for it to be moved further up the street out front of Lifeline. Their response was that unless the owners of Lifeline building (Uniting Church) do not object it would be possible. Unfortunately Uniting Church did object and the bus stop stays.

As a result we have had no choice but to re-design the café to protect our customers from the noise and stink of the bus and move all seating off the footpath. On the upside we feel that the new design is much better than the old one. I have had the opportunity to rectify mistakes and include extra features such as lots of bicycle parking in the form of a bicycle tree and a bicycle repair shop on the roof of the café. The new layout is going to cost us significantly more and so we plan to build in 3 stages. 1st being the café. 2nd the central courtyard where we have been hosting all-ages gigs. 3rd will be the recording studios directly above.

We are optimistic that once council has approved our DA that it will take about 6 months before opening stage 1 – 'Softys Diner'. We are on track to lodge the new plans late next week. Thanks to everyone for their patience.

PS. If anyone wants to buy a house in Kahibah, get in touch. We need the \$ to build Softys Diner. Louie The Sheep is our real estate agent.

PPS. In case anyone is losing sleep wondering, yes the new construction will have a firepole, two in fact. Let's see how council reacts to that fresh genius. :D



SOFTYS DINER : Above; view from the street. Below; side view
Existing building will remain as is. A new performance stage will stick out from the existing building. There are lots of nooks and crannies and useful spaces.



SOFTYS CLUBHOUSE AGM

That's Annual General Meeting if ya aint never been to one. In a couple of months we will be holding our very first AGM. We will need to elect a few humans to some required positions. And discuss other stuff both fascinating and consequential, some of it dull even.

If you are interested in the gizzards of how organisations work, please stay tuned. Or even better, get in touch with your ideas and suggestions. Soon we will be emailing all the Softys Clubhouse members and advising wot happens nexty. You better believe it.

Also... this is SUPER IMPORTANT!!!

We really really really really really really really really want to find experienced people for the following roles...

SECRETARY TREASURER

Neither role will require much work at all throughout the year - mainly just a couple of meetings - but if we get people who have performed these roles before in an organisation, then we don't have to worry about whether or not they are being done satisfactorily. At the mo Softys Clubhouse doesn't really have any money. But there are a range of grants we could apply for and we have a lot of support from other community groups and have a good chance of success with various applicactions. But we don't want any money till we feel comfortable that somebody with experience will make sure we are running the books properly and won't get a smack for making a dumb mistake.

We have a couple of other board members who we hope to be re-elected. And with the late breaking news that El Presidente McDonut is running away to Canada, this opens up the primo role of President. We also would like to bring in a new role - Vice President - which really, could be the best role ever. You're only one stuck fishbone away from being president, but with nearly nil official duties and a fun title, this is the one you'll all be clamouring to get.

Meanwhile, I'm going to nominate McDonut as our official Canadian Correspondent.

On a slightly more practical note...

We want Softys Clubhouse to be a democratic organisation where all members have capacity to become involved. However, when you see how actual democratic governments can go - like in the USA or here in Oz - voters often bowl in without doing any reserach and vote for whichever ferret has the stupidest hair. We've been reading up a bit about "sortition" and we'd like to discuss that option at our AGM. Basically it's like a "jury duty" version of democracy. With issues that require a decision by the membership, instead of asking all members to vote, we would randomly select a panel. That panel would get fully briefed on all the options and then that small group would vote on decisions. Corruption can't work, because the panel is different every time. Also, when you consider a large number of our members are people who simply join in order to attend one particular members-only event, sortition would avoid non-involved members just picking a name that rhymes with something rude for the fun of it.

A randomly selected, well-informed panel seems quite possibly a good way to go. In any case, we can vote on that at the AGM and try it out for a year if it gets the nod. Just mentioning it so you can google it and see what u think.

Better stop with the blah blah blah now and get this lil newsletter out into the world.

Any queries or comments, contact Softy.
softy@softysclubhouse.club

