

***BEYOND THE RAINBOW***

**By Tamaso Lonsdale**

*Beyond the Rainbow* started its life in May 2002 as *Nimbin Writes*, a bi-monthly literary magazine of 12 pages. It was published by Mousetrap Media, a non-profit incorporated association, which comprised a small group of volunteers who worked together to produce the *Nimbin News* magazine and a tourist guide entitled *Nimbin and Environs*. Recently, Mousetrap Media was wound up and now the magazine is auspiced by, *The Nimbin Good Times*.

Nimbin is a small village in northern New South Wales, Australia, which has a notorious but erroneous reputation as the “drug capitol of Australia’. Drugs seem to be the only thing that outsiders know about Nimbin, in spite of the fact that we have a vast array of creative people including not only writers but also artists, musicians, potters, sculptors, weavers, basket-makers, furniture makers and fashion designers.

The idea for *Nimbin Writes* was to showcase the work of the numerous writers living in the area. In the first issue we listed books published by over twenty Nimbin authors and featured the work of six of them. By the third edition, we had so many wanting us to include their work that we decided to enlarge the magazine to 16 pages. We also changed its name to *Beyond the Rainbow* because our area is known as the Rainbow Region and we were receiving submissions from places far beyond.

The third edition included submissions by four students from the Nimbin school. We have always encouraged young writers as we well know what a thrill it is to see our story or poem actually in print. We also feel sure that one day, when these youngsters are famous authors, we will be able to boast that we were the first to publish them.

Over the years, our fame has spread far and wide and we have received submissions from many countries, including the United Kingdom and the United States of America. In recent times, we caught the eye of Sunil Sharma and Jaydeep Sarangi, academics from

India, who then introduced us to authors from that country, from whom we have received many stories and poems.

A further result from meeting with Jaydeep and Sunil has been the publication of two books combining the work of Indian and Australian authors. The first, *Poetic Connections* features six poets from each country and the second is an anthology of Indo-Australian short stories. *Beyond the Rainbow* is proud to be associated with the production of these wonderful books.

*Beyond the Rainbow* publishes short stories, poems, articles, book reviews and extracts from work in progress. Unfortunately we are not able to pay our authors but are hoping to do so at some later date. Meantime, we can only offer a copy of the issue in which the work appear. We are happy to receive submissions, preferably by email although hard copies are also welcome. We like to have a photograph of the author together with a short biography of writing experience and residential country.

*Beyond the Rainbow* is priced at \$3.00 per copy. Yearly subscription is \$18.00 within Australia and \$45.00 posted overseas. We also welcome donations or sponsorship of a page at \$10.00.

Submissions may be emailed to: <tamasolonsdale@gmail.com> or posted to

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**Bio:**

Tamaso has been writing most of her life. She was first published at the age of nine in the *Sunbeams* children's section of the *Sydney Sun* and also read her stories on 2GB and 2SM radio stations' children's programs.

She is the author of nine teenage novelettes for 'reluctant readers', four books on Australian birds, several published short stories and poems and has self-published one book *Skye's the Limit*, a story about a young girl's fight to save a rainforest.

She has recently completed the third novel in trilogy form. The first book, *Brothers? Uncles! Sister? Aunt!* was published in 2002. The second book *The Missus* was published in 2010 and the third *Beyond Darkness* in 2012.

Also in 2012, a book of short stories *Out of My Mind* was published.

Tamaso has lived in Nimbin northern NSW for twenty years, during which time she has been a volunteer worker at Nimbin News Magazine and presented a Writers' Program on NIM-FM. Community radio. She now edits the literary magazine *Beyond the Rainbow*.

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