

# Wet road to Wadeville

by The Reminiscent Ambulant

I watch the water gathering rivulets in the corrugations on the road. It courses down the gutters on the Stony Chute Road. I trudge the mud beside it. The wonder of gravity. It pours into those big, round, dish shaped, randomly distributed potholes. It looks symmetrical, as though Council Workers had been suddenly infected with artistic flair to design this great 'in-road' sculpture.

If I took a photograph and just stuck it on my wall it wouldn't be the same. No... it's 'being there'. The real three-dimensional visual impact that inspires. It inspired me so much that I turned without hesitation (sharp right) into Campbell Road.

Time for a little contemplation. On a seat, wet and slimy, but beautiful, nevertheless. Nothing that would wet my bum once the extra pages of the expanded issue of The GoodTimes

were spread over a bloody beautiful chunk of old wood.

You'd wonder why I'd sacrifice a perfectly readable copy of The GoodTimes to sit there. It's not as though there is a great fishing hole here. It's not even a safe refuge for motorists spinning out on the pothole sculpture negotiation experience.

The real reason is the vision of the once thriving Richmond Landcare and Training Inc. This was a great all round training program embedded with the vision of reforestation, weed eradication and water catchment management. You have to wonder why these projects aren't ongoing.

I never cease to be amazed by the transformation. Yes! Tall trees can grow in small spaces! A great example is the cattle-yards, where a close planting on the western side offered protection, not only to the yarded cattle, but to the workers who spend several hours a day in the dust and heat with the bovine creatures. The roadside plantings gives a sense of

the bush, of clean air. A rainforest grove planted by the creek gives a cozy feeling. It has grown so much I can shelter from the rain.

The solid fencing means no stray cattle enter - and we all know how they can pillage the garden. Unfortunately small leafed privet still dominates the creek line in places, but it hasn't stopped the black beans. These were randomly seeded into the banks on a very wet day, and they have emerged resplendent with foliage.

Ah, this is not suburbia where tall trees are jammed into very small spaces, crammed up against tinder dry wooden fences and houses with their gutters bulging with leaf litter! Here they can grow whichever way nature decides, free (I hope) from the threat of chainsaws.

Well The GoodTimes is well and truly soaked, but thanks to all those extra pages my bum is still dry. I can feel a thirst coming on, and the Wadeville Woolies is on my mind. I'll cross that bridge when I get to it.

## Restoring the balance

Picture and story:  
Alex Charles



Environmental Training and Employment (Envite) has been administering and supervising work for the dole projects in and around Nimbin for the last six months.

Nimbin based project supervisor, Richard Burer (pictured) said, "Teams comprise up to ten people, and participants achieve on the job experience in environmental restoration, ecology and landscaping.

There is a great sense of accomplishment and satisfaction in taking part in restorative projects that give something back to the planet," he said.

And there is a lot to be proud of: bush regeneration at Hanging Rock Falls, landscaping at Blue Knob

Hall, tree planting and the creation of a bush tucker garden at Nimbin Rocks, street scape beautification at Cawongla Community Centre, tree planting and maintenance at Hanging Rock Hall, riparian rainforest regeneration at the junction of Websters Creek and Stony Chute Road, rainforest regeneration and bush fire hazard reduction at the Rainbow Ridge Steiner School, as well as other Envite teams working on the Barry Walker Estate and the Nimbin Community Gardens.

Normally Envite projects are on public land, but they can also assist landcare projects on private land. Envite is a local community based not for profit organisation that has been operating for many years from Tweed to Coffs Harbour, from the coast and into the hinterland. Richard Burer said "The feedback from the Nimbin Community has been fantastic, with the Blue Knob Hall providing a sumptuous lunch for the participants, in appreciation for a job well done."

If you see the Envite van, stop and have a chat. Exchange ideas, and embrace this wonderful sentiment in a world that increasingly needs optimism, health and a return to nature.

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# The rape of Maleny

## Stop Shop alert from Monday 11th July

Max Witsenhuyzen

I feel compelled to pass this on to all of you: it's about the lifeblood of my town, and the rape of my community.

And I'm part of no lunatic fringe here: everyday folk are aghast at the bloody-mindedness and deceit of Woolworths, in cosy collusion with Government (refer [www.aec.gov.au/donations](http://www.aec.gov.au/donations)) and media

in their pay, as they drive concrete pylons into the platypus burrows - in the breeding season no less! - to "plant" a large supermarket right next to the Obi Obi Creek, at the very entrance to our town.

Yep, that's right, platypus - a national treasure supposedly protected, an icon on our 20c coin, those unique, reclusive creatures that took me 30 years to glimpse - and, wonder of wonders, I can clearly see them from the Obi Obi bridge in my hometown... now to have their burrows pile-driven and their young butchered.

This is wanton obscenity, pure and simple, and I am outraged, as is a wide cross-section of Maleny:

Please support us. At least view the facts and 3-year

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\* 'Market Facts' survey 20/7/05. This advertisement was paid for by the community of Maleny

Authorised by Steven Long, 43 Maple Street, Maleny QLD 4562

history at [www.maleneyvoice.com](http://www.maleneyvoice.com), or for an in-depth and balanced media perspective check out Maleny's local weekly newspaper at [www.rangenews.com.au](http://www.rangenews.com.au).

This is not just about a country town, small enough still to be without street lights, nestled in the beautiful hinterland of the Sunshine Coast, far from the corridors of power.

This concerns you and me wherever we live, and the very fabric - fragile and torn as it is - of our greater community, of our one humanity.

Please help us. You can follow the Woolworths Boycott details, or talk to your neighbour, or send an email. Connect! The line is drawn right here and now in the sand above the platypus burrows on the beloved banks of our Obi Obi Creek.

### Courses starting at Djanbung Gardens

**Seed Saving & Operating a Seed Bank**

1st August (5 days, Mondays 9-5)

Learn how to grow, collect & store seeds, identify plant families and botany, conserve non-hybrid & heritage varieties, set up and operate a seed bank. Course includes excursions to Seed Savers in Byron Bay

APT Accreditation: Cert IV PIL409A Manage a permaculture seed bank

Cost: \$155/\$130 Tutors: Jude Fanton (Seed Savers Network) & Robyn Francis

**Organic Solutions for Weeds, Pests & Diseases**

1 Semester Course: 2 hours/ week, 11am-1pm, every Tues 2 Aug to 27 Sept, 11 Oct to 29 Nov.

Tutor: Janelle Schafer

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Integrated Pest Management, Cultural strategies for gardens & orchards, Companion planting Nutrient deficiencies, Weeds as indicators & dynamic accumulators, Organic sprays & treatments.

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Part time Permaculture Design Course

August 12  
2 days (Fri-Sat) per fortnight Aug-Oct  
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