



THE NIMBIN GOODTIMES

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FREE

It's so-o-o quiet!

Untimely wet weather forced the cancellation of the eagerly anticipated Sk8 Park sound test on 22nd July, but not before a lucky few skaters gave it a go.

In front of a dozen or so on-lookers, a group of young skateboard enthusiasts took to the half-pipes to try out their moves on the beautifully balanced construction, and the verdict was unanimous, it was very much quieter.

Local resident Wal Davies agreed there seemed to be less rolling noise, but maintained the banging sounds were still just as loud. "Anyway, it doesn't matter what you or I think, it's what's on the sound meter that counts," he said.

The structure, which won an award as an exemplary community-based Work For The Dole project, has recently undergone noise amelioration installations for half of its width. These have featured innovative and inexpensive re-use of recycled materials in accordance with EPA regulations.

Local tradesman Gary Priddle measured the noise levels of the skaters on his mobile phone. He recorded a peak banging sound level of 72db, well inside the 15db reduction sought by Council, and compared favourably with the noise of passing cars idling downhill at 82db.

Matters were brought suddenly to a halt at 11.30am when a heavy shower signalled the end of all skating, measuring and speculating, and a phone call being was to the Council engineer to cancel the official test. The disappointed skaters accepted their lot in good spirit, and the park was again closed up.

In the fine weather that ironically followed the cancellation, NCDA committee members, residents and rubber-neckers discussed the facility on the footpath.

Peace Park committee member Michael Balderstone said the rain demonstrated the need for a roof to



A moment to relish. The short-lived opportunity for local skaters to enjoy the world class design of the Nimbin SK8 park, before the cloudburst. **Below:** The talk-fest aftermath.



make the facility more usable. "When it rains it's too slippery, and when the sun beats down on it you'll fry, A roof would solve a lot of problems, in my view," he said.

The test has been re-scheduled for Saturday 5th August from 11am. Weather permitting, there will be a

BBQ to thank the skaters for their time on the ramp during the sound check.

Marcus Mantscheff, Coordinator of the Nimbin Community Centre said, "If the weather looks wet once again, please feel free to rock up early with a stiff broom or a mop and bucket to help dry the surface water from the ramps."



Why does Darcy come to Nimbin?

Darcy Goodwin threw a party in the School of Arts Hall on Saturday 29th July to celebrate 17 years of his Five Loaves mobile soup kitchen coming to Nimbin.

Darcy practices a practical Christianity, or as he calls it, "Walking the Talk."

"I first stood on this stage, speaking the gospel, in 1960," he said. "I was here for a week in 1973, when there were 10,000 people on Cullen Street every day, and it taught me about human nature and how people can come together to achieve things."

"I saw the meaning of the human race in Nimbin," he said. "Many people still find it is the best place to come for friendship and fellowship, and they come from all over the world. In all the years I've spent in my evangelical mission, I've never seen a place as friendly or with as much generosity and actual physical support. There's a genuineness of their human nature."

And will Darcy keep coming to Nimbin? "I'll keep this up till they put me in a coffin," he said, "and then they can lay me to rest here."



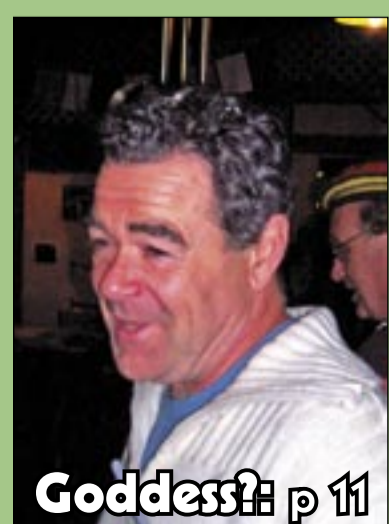
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