



OUR SPECIAL FEATURE



2008 SOUVENIR LIFTOUT



Our serene Ganja Faerie Queen



Ganja Faeries win Best Float

This year's MardiGrass Parade was undoubtable the best yet, with a competition for best float drawing forth many inventive entries.

Prizes of \$2000, \$1000 and \$500 were provided by the Happy High Herbs chain of shops.

Judging was based not only on the construction and its non-combustion propulsion, but also on costumes, message power and crowd response.

The Ganja Faeries, who have long been a feature of the Parade, took out first place after their tireless execution of a tight dance routine around the Queen's chariot.

Second place went to the golden girls of the May Queen entry, and third place was won by the Nimbin St Vincent de Paul entry, using totally recycled materials.

As well as the cheques, winning teams were presented with trophies made from the recycled timber of local bridge supports.

Happy High Herbs representatives were delighted with the response to the competition, and plan to hold it again next year.

After announcing the winners, Ray Thorpe told the crowd in Peace Park, "Come again next year, and bring a damn float!"



Choosing a MardiGrass Queen who is expecting a baby was easy this year.

"I'm a long-term friend of Bobbin's," said 25-year old Amber Golden, referring to one of the Ganja Faeries dance troupe.

Amber has lived in Nimbin for 11 years, and is five months pregnant.

"I think it's a boy, but I'll be happy with either," she said breezily.

The Queen's duties this year involved riding at the head of the Parade in a pedal-powered chariot, with a driver and two attendants, wearing the elaborate robes made by the Faeries.

"Biko made the top, crown and

belt, and Jane made the skirts and the jacket," Amber said.

"I felt extremely honoured to be asked," Amber said. "I realise how powerful the symbolism is."

Winning the inaugural Best Float award would have been a right royal treat to finish the day.

Who will wear the crown in 09?



NIMBIN CAFE

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