



THE NIMBIN GOOD TIMES

Democratic and FREE

Red Kamala
Edition
September
2009

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Photo: Graeme Dunstan

Rally Resistance

All the letter writing, all the petitions, all the critter and citizen protests, and all the injunctions and legal process have come to nought and the Repco Rally juggernaut (90 racing cars plus support vehicles and helicopters) is rolling on.

It's been an interesting and challenging campaign stretching across affected communities from Kingscliff, through Murwillumbah and the Tweed Valley to Kyogle and beyond the Richmond Ranges, and drawing together a diverse representatives of community resentment and resistance.

Peaceful protests are planned at points along the rally route:

- Friday 4th September 9am: Byangum Bridge,

Tweed River near Bray Park

- Saturday 5th September 11am: in front of Barkers Vale Public School
- 3pm: at Horseshoe Creek Hall, Green Pigeon Rd
- Sunday 6th September 1pm: Toonambar Dam, Kyogle shire (Ghinni Ghi Road)

2.30pm: Uki Village, Tweed shire

4.30pm: Final ceremony, Kingscliff (live TV broadcast)

The harder Rally Australia and its corporate courtiers in government push this rally upon the green loving folk in them here hills, the more they will come together and the stronger resistance will grow.

More info: www.norallygroup.org

Nimbin Tower – Now you see it, now you don't

by Bob Dooley

Already, it's getting hard to remember exactly where it was.

Nimbin's 36-metre police communications tower was demolished by contractors on the first day of spring, as quickly and quietly as it had been built by them a month earlier.

The tower had been erected as part of a NSW Police Radio Communications Maintenance Program but Police have acknowledged that a contractor failed to follow the required process of providing Lismore City Council with details of the then proposed development, resulting in the tower being built in a heritage area.

"The tower, in its original location, spoiled the local vista and contradicted heritage guidelines," Mayor Jenny Dowell said.

Nimbin Chamber of Commerce secretary Eugenie Stephans presented a petition to

August Council meeting asking for the tower to be moved. Councillors responded with an unprecedented vote to urgently request NSW Police Minister Tony Kelly's intervention to relocate the tower to a more acceptable site.

Cr Simon Clough added an amendment to the Mayoral Minute to offer assistance to the police to find a new location.

Results came quickly. The next day Mayor Dowell said, "I have been advised that the tower will be removed within the next two weeks," and exactly 14 days later the structure was removed.

The pre-fabricated sections of the tower will be stored at council facilities until a new site for the tower is decided upon.

Nimbin Chamber of Commerce President Peter Wise welcomed the demolition.

"Thank you to Chamber members, community groups and local residents, who strongly lobbied and made it happen," he said.

Richmond Local Area Commander, Superintendent Bruce Lyons, stressed the importance of rectifying communication blackspots.

"Lismore City Council is working with NSW Police Force to establish a radio site that satisfies council and community concerns and provides much needed radio coverage for operational police in Nimbin," he said.

Blackspots are not limited to police communications, and it has been suggested that the new site may be chosen for its suitability for use by other emergency services.

But at the moment, where that might be is anybody's guess. Not that there's been a shortage of guesses – practically every spur and creek-flat has been selected by someone.

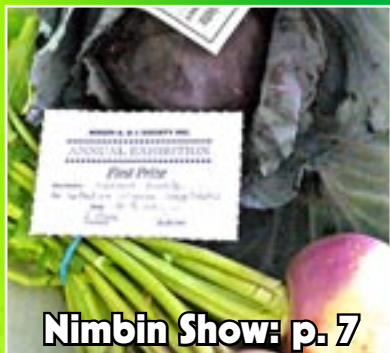
Incidentally, anyone with photos of the tower has probably got a collectable. Keep an eye on ebay.



Photo: Sue Stock



Terania 30th: p. 4



Nimbin Show: p. 7



Woodstock 40th: p. 12



Tennis: p. 23