

Roads rage

In reply to the comments of the mayor Jenny Dowell and the deputy mayor Simon Clough in the *Nimbin GoodTimes* June edition I would like to raise the following matters.

Our council should be concentrating on the failures in its methodology and practices of road maintenance in this area. It is not about the amount of money you have to spend but about how efficiently you spend that money. Your council is an abject failure in that area.

Everyone, except council staff, knows the biggest enemy to road maintenance is water on or under the road. You must fix the drainage before you spend money on actual road repairs that is the best way of getting better value for dollar. This is your first failure.

Your second failure is in road design and tonnage allowed. Most roads here are not designed to cope with trucks and dog trailers, therefore, dog trailers should be banned from those roads. Only roads that meet compaction test standards should be allowed to carry larger trucks.

It is offensive to read the deputy mayor's excuses in his 'Simon Says' column of the *Nimbin GoodTimes*. You can't blame the rain for bad management. There are many areas of Australia that have higher rain fall and they have much better roads than here. Don't ever use that pathetic excuse again.

As for your statement re CSIRO and the \$8 per litre petrol prices and how Council can plan for this, it is ridiculous at best.

Eric Harris
RRALI Roads sub committee

In the name of Development?

I read with dismay Liam Brehme's vision for the proposed Zorb facility in a quiet lane in Nimbin.

As I understand it, the developers (Liam, with

funding from his parents who live in the UK) propose to invest BIG dollars in a commercial venture and place it in a quiet rural residential part of Nimbin. Statistics from the DA indicate cars and buses in low gear will noisily grind up Blade Road's steep hill every 8 minutes, with long hours of operation 7 days a week from 9am-7pm in the summer. In building a Zorb launching pad a few metres from their nearest neighbour, the developers hope to fill the venue with excited backpackers while vehicles and people will drown out the sounds of nature.

Who cares? Let's sacrifice the values of a few residents who left behind the very things this development will impose. Residents who value above all their privacy, the peaceful environment filled with wildlife and natural beauty, who enjoy and improve their properties by planting trees, growing organic vegies, meditating on the sounds of nature and such like.

The developers want to take this away by sugar coating the venture with promises of going "green", providing jobs and more dollars for local business. The developer says he has aspirations of planting 500,000 trees but needs the Zorb facility to pay for this 'noble project'. It doesn't make sense. If he really is serious about reforestation he would scrap the project and instead, plough the money directly into tree planting. The two ventures are quite separate and not at all compatible.

I'm not against development, creating more jobs or generating income for business but let's build Zorb runs in appropriate places, not in a quiet rural residential lane destroying the amenity of the area and the resident's quality of life.

Concerned Blade Road resident,
Rikki Fisher
Nimbin

Zorbing and tree-planting

The article on zorbing states plans to use the money to plant 500,000 trees on 150 acres. This works out to planting 1m x 1.2m grid

This close planting regimen is silvicultural and reforestation nonsense. I'm serious. There is no silvicultural science supporting such close plantings and for very solid reasons.

North Coast re-afforesters have bought into this folly of close plantings for far too many years. Ridiculously close planting certainly benefits the nurseries selling such plants, especially if the nursery are re-afforesters as well. Did I hear conflict of interest?

It's a waste of nursery stock that will require serious thinning and expense in the future unless you like stunted growth.

Much better to plant a wider grid, eg 3mx4m. A 3x4 grid would cover ten times the land area (1500 acres).

If the land is unavailable, then monies saved by not buying so many trees can be used to purchase fertilizer for trees that are planted and other necessities to promote growth.

Paul Recher
Dorroughby

Chem-trail distraction

In June's *GoodTimes* it was great to see Rusty Harris getting the ear of Kevin Rudd, but disappointing Rusty called for an end to fracking and chem-trails! Fracking is real – chem-trails are not.

I mean, do you really imagine a mass conspiracy of secret air-bases costing billions, with underground bunkers and hangers hiding hundreds of giant tanker aircraft, crop dusting the masses with compliancy chemicals (bromine?!)

It would require the secret co-operation of the entire civil aviation and chemical industry, weather bureau, police and military,

About Us

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public service, both sides of government... plus a huge secret slush fund.

Can you imagine not a single disaffected participant breaking ranks and whistle-blowing? Not a single farmer photographing an aircraft taking off or landing? Not a single pilot reporting strange air traffic?

Not to mention all the vagaries of wind and weather etc. etc. And why would this 'evil empire' be poisoning their own? There are far more effective ways to deliver compliance – like the mass media!

There are plenty of fair-dinkum conspiracies around that deserve attention - like fracking, a collusion between government and industry rammed through with little information or consultation.

But truly, chem-trails are a silly distraction that suck energy from the main-game. Maintain the rage with discernment – give chem-trails the flick!

Michael Balson
Byron Bay

Going, going, gone

Tunable Creek Primary (aka Tuntable Tigers) needs students urgently.

The primary school has been servicing this community since 1935, but it currently has not enough pupils and is looking at being closed if this is not overcome.

They recently extended their school bus route from Young Road to now go all the way to Tuntable community.

My son, having been subjected to harassment and bullying that was not

Bookkeeper: Martha Paitson
Website: David McMinn
www.nimbingoodtimes.com

NGT is auspiced by the Nimbin Community School Co-operative Ltd.

Next deadline:
Wednesday 27th July

Email: nimbin.goodtimes@gmail.com or put stuff in our pigeonhole at the Nimbin Community Centre.

Please limit contributions to 600 words or less.

dealt with effectively at other schools, was welcomed and received warmly by the students, teachers, staff and Principal Judy Voicey.

I did not talk about my son's past difficulties but being a small school with very competent switched-on teachers, they spotted it without any prompting. This in all probability would not have happened in a larger school due to teachers and staff having a greater ratio of pupils to attend to.

In the very short space of time he went from a insecure, timid child who had isolated himself in his play station, and had multiple difficulties to overcome socially, scholastically and emotionally and was a straight "D" student when he arrived there, to a straight "A" student who now reads voraciously, has not been near his play station in months and looks forward to school. (I kid you not!)

He is now attending high school enthusiastically, and remains a straight "A" student. He also continues to enjoy having an unquenchable thirst for knowledge. A complete life-changing 180.

In a nutshell, I wish to express my gratitude and relief and thanks for what Tuntable Tigers did for my son and his future education. It would be a monumental loss for this community if this Primary school were to close.

I urge anyone with children in the area whose children will be attending primary school in the near future (or possibly being home-

Notices

House share

Female (kids OK) to share large 7 bedroom house in Rock Valley with mid-age male Steiner primary teacher/artist/pianist. Up to 3br, own bathrm, pool, 5 acres, \$150 + bills. Phone Neil 6629-3248.

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Community School

The Open Learning Centre will run in Term 3, with classes beginning on 3rd August. Enrolments will be on July 27th in the Communiy Centre.

Offering creative writing, art, photography, folk lore, astrology, exercise and computer classes. Enquiries: 6689-1477.

Felting for kids

Creative holiday activities for 6 to 10 year-olds at Black Sheep Farm. Felting: 9am to 1pm, Wednesday 13th July. Enjoy a creative and playful morning with your child in our beautiful Learning Centre!

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schooled) and will be desiring a great experience for their children's primary education with the latest technology, and culturally sensitive and spiritually aware beings, to give Tuntable Creek Primary a call on 6688-6212, or check out their website.

To all, don't believe a word I have written... find out for yourselves.

Frank Darcey
Tuntable Creek

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Media Tart

Don't the legions of anti-Balderstone letter writers realise that every time they succumb to the delicious need to publicly berate him, they merely raise his overall Google rating! He doesn't care what you say about him, just so long as you say it in print.

Stop pandering to this egotistical media-tart pseudo-bogan hippie. Let him rot in the foetid pool of obscurity.

**Bob Tissott
Nimbin**

Koala kaos

After reading Koala Kolumn in the June NGT, I felt for our furry friends again, always have. I have been honoured to be named 'Koala' by our indigenous friends and you know who you are, bro's and sis's.

I thank the Friends of the Koala Inc. in doing the work that's been done in the past, present and future, as I'm sure will be done by the sounds of it. Yes it would be nice to think politicians who are supposed to represent us or is that resent us (?) would be a lot more responsible when it comes to threatened and endangered species and the koala is only one of many.

At the moment, I'm working against the frackers = CSG = hydraulic fracturing (fracking) and at Curtis Island, Gladstone in Central Queensland, the coal seam gas industry want to pipe dirty processed gas to a new port in Gladstone for export to China. They want to gouge the dugongs' sea grass bed which is their food source. Dugongs are on the endangered list, so the dilemma goes on and on. The polities need to listen to the people because the people who voted them in, can vote them out.

Remember folks, we are the power, the people united shall never be defeated.

**Koala Ears (Paul Brecht)
Mullumbimby**

No nukes

If anything positive is to come from the nuclear disaster which has befallen our brothers and sisters in Japan – the ripple effect touching our entire planet

– let it be that the world said NO – no more to the nuclear industry.

All it takes for evil to prevail is for good men to do nothing. There must be a shift. Let our legacy be that we learnt from our mistakes, that we prevented any more nuclear destruction. Let our legacy not be one of shame. Now is our time.

Love is the key – inner-one-to-one – international – universal. Everything is connected. By hurting our Earth, we are hurting ourselves.

Australia's mines contain 40% of the world's uranium reserves. Make a difference – the single fluttering of a butterfly's wings can cause a hurricane.

Write to: The Honorable Julia Gillard MP Prime Minister, Parliament House Canberra, ACT 2600.

A single sentence will do. 'I am opposed to the nuclear industry and demand legislation to end it.'

Only this week, she reminded us that Australia is a democratic society and everyone's voice will be heard. Let our voices join together and become a deafening roar.

**J. Tiernan
Suffolk Park**

Optimism needed

I read with inspiration and unfounded optimism, Katie Milne's letter to the editor in the June 23 *Tweed Shire Echo*. It is of course reinforcement of the overwhelming community feedback expressed late last year during the Tweed Community Engagement Strategy. So why then is the same sentiment not expressed/ reflected in our Tweed Shire Council, Community Strategic Plan 2011-2021, despite Guiding Principles of Social Justice; Economic Resilience; and Sustainability (p.10)?

If it was then we should not be hearing more talk of Coal Seam Gas mining and exploration licenses for the area. We should not be hearing more talk by Thomas George MP for Lismore, supporting a Byrriil Creek dam and unsustainable growth and development (*Tweed Valley Weekly*, June



Mardi Boganstone

In response to last month's letter from Ian Dutton branding Michael Balderstone as a 'Bogan Hippy'. We will tie-dye our flannelette shirts, shake the bugs out of our ugg boots, then get ready for the Nimbin Bogan Hippy Awards. Entrants will grab their piece of the stolen counterculture, become 'Stoned Strine Legends', capture the attention of the media with shameless lower class rhetoric while indulging in self-absorbed hedonistic pleasures without remorse.

Hopefully, we will define the stereotypical cultural barrier between bigoted red-necks, ignorant blue-collar workers and communist green tree-huggers, then also show off our dreadful mullets and illegitimate offspring.

First prize is a bag of dope for the most genuine Bogan Hippy. Watch the web site for details.

**Spin Dr. Heathen Lovechild
Nimbin HEMP Embassy
www.hempembassy.net**

19-25, 2011).

Why is it that motions put to Council that reflect planning and development reforms in these areas are voted down at meetings every time? What has happened to Barry O'Farrell's pre-election promise/ declaration of restoring democracy and returning decision making power to the people and local government?

On the issue of Byrriil Creek dam, the people and qualified experts have already spoken. So how is one to interpret the persistent attempts by Thomas George, Tweed Shire Council Mayor Kevin Skinner and certain councillors to get this issue back on the Water Sharing Plan table?

The conclusion that I draw, other than collusion and misrepresentation, is that biodiversity value does not figure in traditional and competitive reasoning on economic and social development, everything but Triple Bottom Line analysis and reporting, a responsibility at all levels of Australian government. Not that it directly should

but coincidentally biodiversity value is the one, if not only thing, that sets us apart uniquely and therefore beneficially from other regions in Australia, around the world; rich agricultural plains; natural clean water courses and supply; scenic landscape; flora and fauna corridor etc. all contribute to the relatively healthy ecosystems that support biodiversity and what remains of endangered species in the area.

It is not as if the science, the research; the data; the international recognition of the regions biodiversity value has suddenly come to light. Will qualified reminders such as John Hunters workshop and talk of UNESCO Biosphere be enough to sway the conservative minds amongst us?

I remain as always inspired and optimistic, that we may work together in recognizing and addressing the challenges before us, but more significantly realizing the collective opportunities that exist.

**Steve Tate
Stokers Siding**

Prayers for peace

In July, the United States military will conduct enormous training exercises in Australia with the Australian Defence Force. Warships, submarines, warplanes, and soldiers will arrive. Invading shores and villages will be practiced. Bombing from the air will be practiced.

The US war of terror continues. As I write, we are still at war in Iraq and Afghanistan and undeclared war in Pakistan, Yemen and Libya. Civilians are still killed and maimed by Coalition air strikes. One such air strike can be viewed as leaked military footage at www.collateralmurder.com

Civilian homes, schools, workplaces, infrastructure, and even weddings have been decimated by the US bombs. These air strikes are a violation of human life, of international law, of morality, and the teachings of Christ to love our enemies.

Myself and a small group of pacifists are preparing to disarm a US military aircraft while they are here in July. We will not harm or threaten people.

In the vision of the prophet Isaiah, and in the tradition of the Berrigans and the Ploughshares movement, we will begin the disarmament by using household tools to hammer on the aircraft. We will try to reduce the capacity of this machine to kill and harm human beings.

The Rockhampton International Airport is used by Australian and US military aircraft during training exercises.

Bryan Law has notified the Department of Defence, Rockhampton Airport and newspapers of our intention. To my knowledge, this is the first time that a non-violent ploughshares group have given advance notice of their intention. There will be heightened security at the airport, and police surveillance of those of us known to be involved.

In the coming weeks we will pray for a miracle. I invite you and your community to pray for a miracle.

With thanks,
Culley Palmer

Joe must go

One of the cornerstones of the Westminster system under which all politicians are supposed to be bound is the principle of ministerial responsibility. The principle requires that any serious mistake or shortcoming made by a minister or their senior staff in relation to their duties automatically results in that minister resigning from the ministry. It is a way of assuring voters that "the buck stops here".

It is one of the most egregious practices of current Australian political life that this vital tool in "keeping the bastards honest" is today being patently ignored. If this ministerial responsibility is to mean anything then it should be invoked by the live animal export issue and the minister, Joe Ludwig, should be sacked since he has not had the decency to resign. This colourless dullard is only in his position because he, like his father before him, commands a large bloc of unionist votes through his domination of the Australian Workers Union.

When the scandal broke he first announced an enquiry, then capitulated and announced a temporary ban on a few of the abattoirs involved and later again changed his position twice more – far from actively acknowledging and acting on the sheer moral outrage expressed by the ban's supporters who came, it seems, from every demographic in the country. It then took him further days of vacillation before stopping the practice outright, if he is to be believed. His culpable indecision was thereby responsible for further more hundreds of cattle being brutalised.

We must immediately call on Ludwig to stand down and if he does not, for his sacking. He may as well go now because the public have long memories for this type of issue and will never forgive him. To coin a phrase, he is politically "dead meat", albeit killed more humanely than the hundreds of dead animals whose life was effectively in his hands.

**Graham Irvine
Nimbin**

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Tackling climate change



by Justine Elliot, MP

Local MP Justine Elliot said the Gillard Government is committed to addressing climate change and reducing Australia's carbon pollution.

Justine said, "It's time to act on climate change and there are five things you should know about Labor's plan for cleaner energy.

- **Carbon pollution is causing climate change.** Last decade was the warmest on record. Further warming will lead to rising sea levels, more extreme weather events and will cause harm to natural icons like the Great Barrier Reef and Kakadu National Park.

- **We are already behind.** Other countries are already acting to cut carbon pollution. While Australia has the highest carbon pollution levels per person in the developed world. The longer we delay, the more it will cost.

- **Polluters will pay.** Less than 1000 of our biggest polluters will be required to pay for the pollution they generate. This is the most effective way to get polluters to clean up their act.

- **Households will be assisted.** Because industry will pass some of its costs on to consumers, every cent raised will go to assisting households, supporting jobs and investing in climate change programs.

- **It's vital for future jobs and generations.** Labor's plan will drive investment in cleaner energy. This will unlock new jobs and provide a better environment for our kids to live in.

The effects of climate change will be felt right across Australia and those of us who are fortunate to live on the North Coast are no exception.

On the North Coast we will certainly feel the effects of climate change. If we do nothing to address pollution it is forecast that sea levels may rise by up to 1.1 metres, severe weather events may significantly increase, and annual rainfall may significantly decrease by 2030.

"If we take no action to address climate change then locally it is likely that native habitats will be lost and farmland will become less productive" said Justine.

While acknowledging the positive achievements made so far in addressing climate change including providing assistance to renewable energy and the funding for the \$5 billion Clean Energy Initiatives and the \$1 billion Connecting Renewables program, Justine welcomed the Government's commitment to commence pricing Carbon.

"Australia may only be the 11th highest emitter of pollution in the world but, on a per capita basis, Australia is the worst polluter in the world.

Member for Richmond
107 Minjungbal Drive
Tweed Heads South
Phone 1300-720-675

"The rest of the world is taking positive action to address climate change and Australia must as well." Justine said.

Delivering for the local Environment

Locally the Gillard Government has invested more than \$2 million in additional funding to a whole range of initiatives including investment in walking tracks through Australia's 'Green Cauldron National Landscape', funding bike paths, funding Rainwater and Greywater initiatives, providing resources for community water projects, and funding the Caring for Country Program.

"One of the most exciting local projects I have opened was the Nimbin Community Solar Farm.

"The Nimbin Community Solar Farm is an excellent project as it reflects the community's goal to promote sustainable and renewable energy.

"Opening the 45 kilowatt Nimbin Solar Farm on 31st March 2011 was a wonderful demonstration of what can be done locally for our environment.

"The Solar Farm is a reminder of what can be achieved with benefits not only for the environment but also positive outcomes for the community through both employment and extra resources," said Justine.

For more information on the effects of climate change and the steps the government is taking to address this national issue, visit www.climatechange.gov.au



Protesters from Page make their point outside mining company meetings

Why I oppose CSG

by Janelle Saffin, MP

Many local people have contacted me raising strong concerns about Coal Seam Gas (CSG) exploration and mining in our region and its potential damaging effect on the community, environment and agriculture.

It is clear from the recent community rallies and meetings that we need to know more about CSG exploration and its impact, particularly on our water. I support the calls for a moratorium on CSG

exploration.

Like many in the community I was pleased with news of a possible natural gas source in the region as an alternative to coal powered electricity and I welcomed the interest of Metgasco in the Richmond Valley area. But I share the growing concerns about hydraulic fracturing or 'fracking'. While Metgasco tell us they are not using this process, I believe the community deserves much more information on this.

The mining companies have an obligation to tell us clearly

the precise nature of their gas extraction methods; if they are using fracking, what chemicals they use, what studies they have done and any known impacts on our water, land and us.

I have asked the Federal Minister for Sustainability, Environment, Water, Population and Communities, Tony Burke, what powers he has in this area, and it appears the Commonwealth's role in regulating coal seam gas proposals is currently limited to matters protected by the Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999 (EPBC Act). This refers to matters including protection

Member for Page
63 Molesworth Street
Lismore
Phone 1300-301-735

of threatened species and ecological communities.

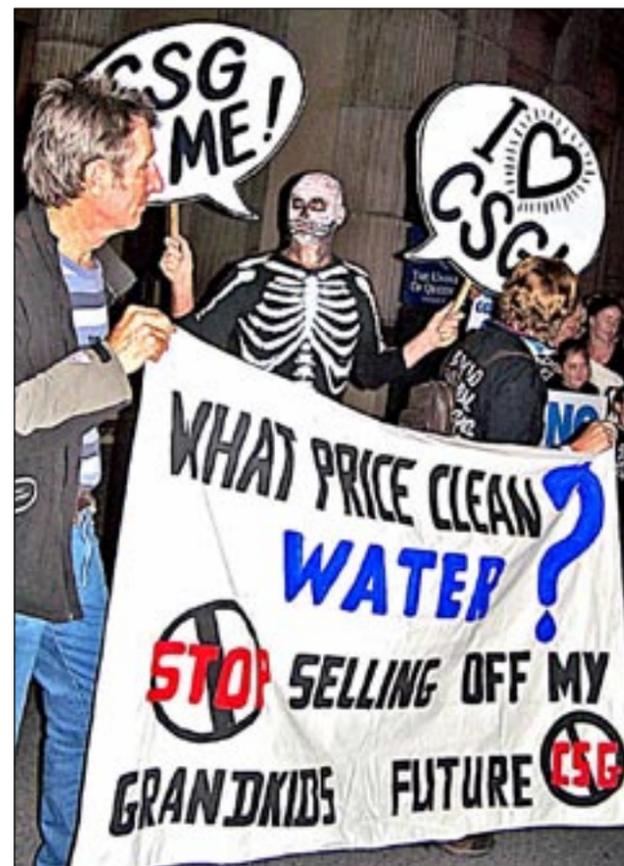
I have had talks with Independent MP Tony Windsor about his plans to introduce changes at the federal level to require region-wide water assessments before new mining proceeds.

I am also exploring whether the National Water Commission can help us to better protect our water resources. The Commission has warned that 'the consequences of not managing the water risk and uncertainties associated with the economic benefits of CSG are substantial'.

Otherwise, mining and exploration, including the regulation of chemicals used in fracking, is primarily regulated by the states.

Local farmers are particularly concerned about the state development approvals given to mining companies to explore and exploit mining resources, with little rights for the property owner.

As I said to Ian Gaillard and Chris Allen from the Keerrong Gas Squad when



they came to see me, this issue is gaining the momentum of the rare earth issue of a few decades back when thousands marched against a rare earth plant in Tuncester.

Mineral resources are owned by the Australian people, held in common by Government. Mining companies make very good profits using the resources

that the people own and they have social obligations to the community. They need to demonstrate that social responsibility by their actions on this issue now.

It is incumbent upon our local State MPs and the new State Government to follow this lead and take action to inform and protect the community.

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From the mayor's desk

by Jenny Dowell

Jenny.Dowell@lismore.nsw.gov.au

Skatepark

Like local skaters and their families, I am delighted that the long-awaited skatepark is available for use in these school holidays. While the official opening is yet to be announced and while some final works are still to be completed, it was really important that the facility was accessible as soon as possible. Saturday June 25 was a glorious day for skaters of all ages and I'm sure that even the beginners will soon be tackling the Snake Run and the biggest bowl.

Budget

After much gnashing of teeth and long nights, Council has brought down its Budget for the coming financial year. We have



scoured every corner of the counting house and have endorsed a balanced and fair budget. Our Operational Plan is the works program for the year ahead and reflects the constraints of not having enough money to do all that our community would like.

Thank you to the community members who made submissions to the process. We value your opinions even though we cannot deliver all that you request.



NSW Roads

The NSW Local Government Association President Keith Rhoades says that NSW Councils face an infrastructure backlog of \$6.3 billion that grows by \$500 million each year. On roads funding alone, the LGA reports a

shortfall of \$667 million per year. The situation is dire throughout the nation but NSW is worse because rate-pegging at 2.8% is well below the accepted construction cost for roads which is closer to 7%. We are all going backwards.

The latest report from NSW Institute of Public Works Engineers and LGSA are recommending an additional \$230 million per year to allow road resurfacing and resealing to be undertaken at the optimum time to prevent the loss of sealed road surface integrity and to minimize future costs. I'm pleased to see that the new NSW Minister for Local Government and Ballina MP Don Page has announced that there will be an audit of Councils' infrastructure. The picture will not be pretty but the other tiers of Government must recognise what Councils and communities are up against.

Lismore's Roads

Contrary to the opinions expressed by one Councillor, all LCC Councillors understand that we need to spend \$1 million on our rural roads alone to maintain them to the current level. It is easy to thump the table and demand that such money is found in our tight budget. It is much harder, indeed impossible, to find these large amounts of money. What Council activities will be cut? What staff and jobs will go? That's the challenge.

Council undertook a full budget review, a review of Council infrastructure services, selling some assets and numerous budget workshops but the money simply is not there. Being a Councillor is sometimes hard. If we are doing our job responsibly, each of us weighs up competing interests, asks what is in the best interests of the whole community now and into the future and, together, we do the best we can with what we have.

While on roads, I welcome the State Government's \$790,000 for safety work on several of our main roads including Woodlawn Road, Stony Chute Road, Wyrallah Road and Blue Knob Road. Work will involve road widening, road resurfacing and the installation of guardrails and wire rope safety barriers.

Blade Rd Zorbing

Like some readers, before I saw last month's NGT I had no idea what zorbing was. Councillors will determine the Development application for a zorbing facility in Blade Road weighing up the competing interests of the applicant's tourism business and the amenity of neighbouring residents. Stay

tuned on when it might be on the Agenda for a Council meeting.

July LEP Workshops

In the last week of July and the first week of August, Council will be meeting in workshops on the Draft Local Environmental Plan. Staff will make presentations and suggest options for Councillors to consider.

These workshops will be separated into the main issues such as Rural and Environmental Zones, Land Reclassifications etc. The topics that have given rise to the largest number of submissions will be discussed at the Lismore and District Workers Club to enable all interested members of the public to attend and observe. Other workshops will be held in Chambers. Letters have been sent to all submitters but for more details, please contact Council.

Farewell Paul O'Sullivan

Council bid farewell to our retiring General Manager, Paul O'Sullivan on June 30. Paul spent nine years at the helm of Council's administration and staff and helped establish Lismore City Council's position as a leader in good governance, solid financial standing and planning for the future needs of the community.

I take this opportunity to thank Paul and wish him a long, happy and healthy third age.

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Simon says...

by Simon Clough

Deputy mayor of Lismore



Early in June, I was part of the very successful Transition Forum at the Nimbin town hall where 40 people had set priorities for Nimbin's transition to a low carbon future. It was uplifting to see so many people committing their Saturday afternoon to the issues of sustainability in health, transport, food, housing, education and energy.

As a councillor representing the 'Our Sustainable Future' party, I'm very excited by these events. Given that the last forum resulted in the Nimbin Solar Farm generating 60kw of power from six different community owned buildings – look out, something major could be on the way.

On the way back from the forum I thought I'd take a quick look at the new skate park site. Wow! It was pumping! The security fence had been skilfully moved and lots of young and some not so young were dropping down the three-metre near-vertical walls and roaring up the other side, hanging precariously on the lip and dropping back. I felt ill. But I had to acknowledge the incredible skill of the riders, I just can't stand heights and

besides Trish wouldn't let me.

It briefly crossed my mind that council could be liable for skaters riding in an unfinished skate park. I decided perhaps it was time for the nanny state to have a nanna nap.

To my untrained eye it looks as though Nimbin has a fantastic facility. Thank you Kevin Rudd (and the stimulus package) and Lismore Council and councillors!

Meanwhile at the pointy end of things, councillors have been determining the budget for the next financial year, a very sobering business. Yes, we have a balanced budget, but experience shows there will be unexpected expenditures or reductions in revenue.

There was some good news for Nimbin. The pesky drain that stinks and never drains on the western side of the pedestrian crossing is to be fixed at the cost of \$115,000. I have written a number of complaints about this one to Council. I wonder if the repairers will actually find the underground fuel tank various locals have assured me is the root cause of the problem.

The Nimbin Chamber of Commerce is to have a say in the spending of its \$3,100 rather than the money being spent on council priorities.

Nimbin Waste Transfer Station is to have a major redevelopment to improve visitor safety and increase waste diversion costing \$300,000. This project will be finished in 2014.

Roads are very much on people's minds. The weather has not been kind to us again this month. Short of drastic cuts to services council has few options to maintain the road network.

Because of this, I'm proposing a motion at the next council meeting that criteria be established to measure the amount and quality of our road repairs. The motion proposes that these criteria be used as a benchmark to ensure a 10% increase in efficiency in council's road work this year.

The Lantern Parade was a wonderful and timely reminder that we are over the longest night of the year and that sunshine and warmth are coming back to us. I'm constantly in awe of Jyllie Jackson and her team and how they are able to create so much magic from so little money. It's a great reminder of the power of passion and commitment from volunteers.

I do wish that sunshine would hurry up! I'm looking outside this morning at the greyness and it's not inspiring. The big question is will I be able to have a decent ride on my bike without getting soaked?

Contact Simon at simonclough@internode.on.net or by phoning 6624-2894 or 0428-886-217. You can also contact him via facebook on Cr Simon Clough.

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The Cup – the comp that stones the nation

by Fester

Well, well, what a turnout and what a fine line of herbs and products graced the 2011 Nimbin Cannabis Cup.

Yes, stoners, it was heaven on a stick for the 60-odd (some very

odd) souls who managed to score an invite to the big event. At a very cool home hidden away on a hillside, the Nimbin connoisseurs got stuck into the cream of this year's crop.

Fluffy outdoor buds were (perhaps unfairly) pitted against indoor strains, and few could be

faulted for taste, perfume, density and, ah, kick. Next to them on the table sat some truly exotic examples of the hash-maker's art.

Each strain was given a number, the attendant stoners picked the ones they wanted to try, and the tongue-tip testing began...

It all gets a bit hazy from this point, but there is no doubt about the outcome. From early on it was clear that there were two favourites, Number 11 in



the pot category, and Number 20 in the hash category.

As the day turned to night the voting didn't change. Numbers 11 and 20 were clear winners. After the votes were counted, the pot cup went to an indoor strain called Cleverman, while the sweet, hand-rubbed, bubble-bag extracted Psychedelicacy – a joint entry by Garry von Billen (grower) and H.A.L. (hash maker) – stormed away with the hash trophy.

The cookie cup was run a day earlier, and the results announced on the same day. The winner there was Number 5, Choc Chunk.



In the cookie cup, entry number 5 'Choc Chunk' was the winner.



The entries. 1 to 17 are buds and entries 18 to 24 are hash. Plate number 11, 'Cleverman', was the winning bud.

STREET SHUFFLE

Journal of the North Coast's longest serving covert

MAYBE UNDA AND OUT

by Undacuvva

The end is nigh, not of the world but of the old world attitude. The withdrawal has begun, as in Afghanistan so in Nimbin.

The folly of war has finally found its way into the secret corners of the BDM's world, (Big Decision Makers). It was helped by the ADHD kid searching one of the Health Ministers favorite sons last week, and in front of everyone in a WKTD, (well known tourist destination, for new readers).

"There are bigger fish to fry", spat out the furious and overweight BDM after he was presented with the annual figures.

"Only 3 Nimbin stoners in jail all year." He couldn't believe it. "That's over \$4 million per head in Force costs."

He glared at the room full of us, me with my tangled and filthy dreadlocks standing out like a taxi in Cullen street, made the mistake of looking him in the eye.

"You're finished Bethany or whatever your name is this week," he screamed. "And we

know you've been buying up all the good weed so we can't get any. And you've probably been warning the dealers off instead of cutting us in. And you haven't been taking your pills the lab boys tell me."

I wasn't ready for the last one but the training stood firm and maintaining the drug-fucked persona I've been playing lately, I stared back at him, dribbling. He had to look away.

"If we have to, you have to," was the cry almost in unison, from everyone in the room as they turned on me.

"But my job is to smoke weed. I do that instead of the pills. I never get depressed," said Bethany flatly.

The pills are supposed to stop depression (they've given up on happiness) but they just make everyone eat more and more junk food.

"To try and fill the bottomless hollow of discontent," as the Dalai calls it. They're jealous of my SUCT he says. (smoke unlimited cannabis ticket - only 3 issued in Oz). That's the truth of it and the grimacing Boss had to let me out the side door for safety.

There's always been Unda's who cross over, or more commonly just lose it. Lose who they are in a maze of lies and deception. There are several living on Nimbin streets currently but confusion reigns with medication the jockey. It's happened to me before, losing who I am, but nothing a good holiday couldn't fix.

This time is different. I can pretend I've lost it. Easy really, just stay in role!

The months in the Pipe Tribe changed me dramatically. For a start, processed foods were banned from the camp and I shed weight like the tide was going out. The yoga and meditation we did together in the forest has suddenly become a habit which hasn't helped my "hippy-lover" reputation in the Force. They hate the Tribe, "dole bludging forest fairies". Spot on really.

Fact is this is the new me and I like it. I never intended to be a double agent but was left with little choice. Natural forces win the day as they always do in the end.

Change is arriving like a slow building tidal wave and I'm going with the flow like you hippies have been telling me to do for so long.

"Not only is your favorite herb a pain killer, it's also entertaining," the Dalai cackled in his broken English, grinning from ear to ear. "People who smoke the sacred weed slow down and think. That's what we always used it for. It's a sleeping medicine for some and a dreamcatcher for others. Spreading the good news of the sacred plants is important work". We agreed so long as we never ran out of weed and with some good company we could

never be depressed.

It's the new cost scare for Governments of all rich countries he says. More than cancer and heart dramas put together, depression expenses are doubling every year with no sign of slowing down.

And it's rampant in the Force as they are discovering with endless monitoring of all members on all health fronts. They fill out forms recording everything we eat or drink, how often we have sex, get angry or get depressed, time and colour of poo and pee, etc etc. Everyone is supposed to take the green and blue pills once a week. For six months now I've been flushing them and they've discovered it in the latest blood test, compulsory every month now.

My SUCT allows me to have weed in my blood but the others loathe it. They've been smoking Kronic like crazy and now it's illegal no doubt there will be a few raids to shore up the stash but that will soon dry up, and then what?

I stashed my watch and phone in the roof of the Nimbin public toilets. Sure enough someone (thank you!) found it the next day and now who knows where I am? Hopefully my file will quietly go to the bottom of the pile.



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Magic pairing at Sphinx Rock

Blues diva Lil'Fi and multi-instrumentalist Bill Jacobi (pictured) caused a sensation at the Ukiptopia Festival, and they combine forces again at the Sphinx Rock Café on Sunday 24th July.

Lil'Fi is renowned Australia-wide as the 'blues singer with an Australian twang, and her credits include five awards for best female blues vocalist. The Woodford Folk

Festival regular has performed at festivals in Australia and beyond – and she is just getting started!

Lil'Fi draws her audiences into a delightful web of storytelling and music with empowering lyrics and an irreverent personality.

Bill Jacobi's career includes playing with Floyd Vincent and the Child Brides, the Shane Howard Band, Neil Murray and the

Rainmakers. He supported Midnight Oil on their Blue Sky Mining circuit, and played on the Warumpi Band No Humbug album.

Lil'Fi and Bill Jacobi will be serving Green Eggs and Ham at Sphinx Rock Café. The Dr Seuss books are the source of inspiration for this musical journey: one to inspire both children and adults.



Jazz Club Notes

Heroes to the rescue



The Lismore Jazz Club presents Heaton's Heroes at the Lismore Bowling Club from 2pm to 5pm on Sunday 17th July.

These players share a common background in the rock and roll era. They started their careers in Sydney and Melbourne and now are settled in the Northern Rivers.

Drummer and vocalist Doug Heaton has been playing for more than 50 years. Royden Ainsworth, clarinet and saxophonist,

has played with many bands in the television industry, in particular Tommy Tycho and for the Ray Martin show. He has been playing professionally for over 40 years.

Ben Rogers, guitarist, started his musical career in Melbourne and played there for many years before venturing north and moving into jazz.

Bass player E.V. Jackson started in the Sydney music scene and was an original member of Radio Jupiter.

Turn on, tune in... to NIM-FM

Good morning listeners... this is Bob Tissot and you're tuned to 102.3 Nim-FM, the voice of the alternative nation.

It's a beautiful, blue-sky day here in Bundjalung country and I've got some great new music to slide between your ears, but before I do I just want to say thank you to all the people who took the time to fill out a Nim-FM listener survey.

The response was astounding; 115 completed surveys in two weeks. The results, along with a swag of other paperwork, will now be sent off to the ACMA as part of our broadcast licence renewal application which comes around every five years.

And I'm proud to announce that

you, the proud citizens of Nimbin, are normal – at least when it comes to what you want from your Community Radio Station. Your answers completely agreed with the results from the McNair National Listener Survey 2010. Scary, huh?

And what do you want? Well, you want it local. Local information, news, views, music and events brought to you by local people whose voices you recognise. You want your radio station to reflect the community you live in. And 90% of you felt satisfied with what you get from Nim-FM. To the remaining 10% I'd like to say sorry, and that all your comments have been taken on board and where possible have been acted upon.

Hopefully you'll notice the difference.

Oh, and don't forget; if you're a member of Nim-FM it's time to pay your annual membership fees. And if you're not a member (66% of survey respondents weren't members), then maybe it's time you were.

Community radio only survives with community support, and we'd love to have yours. There are currently some vacancies in our program, so perhaps you'd like to think about your own show. If so, come and have a chat with us. You'll find us in the Community Centre and all program applications are considered without fear or favour.

OK, I'll shut up now and play some music...

TIME	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	TIME
7.00am	The Jazz Lounge	The Lounge	The Lounge	The Lounge	Wake The #*#@# Up	The Metal Lounge	The Lounge	7.00am
8.00am	Currently Available	The Morning Show	Nimbin Aboriginal Broadcasters	Rancid Candy	Playspace	Pigphat & Bumnuts	Wake Up With Satan	8.00am
9.00am	Absolutely Fabulous	Fire Burn	Tribal Planet	Kaputt Radio	Underwater Radio	Kat Kav	Health is Wealth	9.00am
10.00am	Blues To The Maxx	Konnichiwa (J)	Currently vacant	Das Sofa (G)	The Hemp Hour	The Power & The Passion	Hits & Misses	10.00am
11.00am	Currently vacant	Ron's Rave	Nothing Sacred	Sensa Bohemia	Nimbin Aboriginal Broadcasters	Latin Radical (S)	Nimbin Aboriginal Broadcasters	11.00am
Midday	Nimbin Aboriginal Broadcasters	Adrienne coming soon	The GoodTimes Music Show	The Museum Request Show	The Afternoon Show	Latin Radical (E)	Uncle Len's Tales	Midday
1.00pm	News	News	News	News	News	The Evening Session	Princess Diamond	1.00pm
2.00pm	Roots 'n' All	...and more Love	Mama Mia Italian Hours	Feed The Fire	The B & C Show	The Funk Machine	The Funk Machine	2.00pm
3.00pm	Indie Scene	Four-footed Furry-faced Friends	Currently Available	Nimbin Blue Strain	Earache My Eye	Citi Ram	Evening Jazz Show	3.00pm
4.00pm	The Lounge All night Music	Old, Gold & Retro	The Lounge All night Music	The Lounge All night Music	The Metal Lounge	The Lounge All Night Music	The Jazz Lounge	4.00pm
5.00pm								5.00pm
6.00pm								6.00pm
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10.00pm								10.00pm
11.00pm								11.00pm

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July Gigs

Thursday 7th
Friday 8th
Saturday 9th
Sunday 10th

Riley and Donna
The Pierce Brothers
Richie Williams
The Stillsons

Thursday 14th
Friday 15th
Saturday 16th
Sunday 17th

Bo Jenkins
Sarah and The King Bee's
Ill Starred Captain
Surf Report

Thursday 21st
Friday 22nd
Saturday 23rd
Sunday 24th

Robert Saric
The Hoochers
Blues Corp
Blues Corp

Thursday 28th
Friday 29th
Saturday 30th
Sunday 31st

The Method
Broadfoot
TBA
Broadfoot

Gigs start: Thurs 6pm, Fri 7.30pm, Sat 7pm, Sun 2.30pm

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Sunday Gig Guide

July 1 pm Start

10th Luna Junction
Brisvegas sextuplets deliver an eclectic extravaganza

17th Somersault
Local music magicians perform latin/celtic/spanish

24th Green Eggs & Ham
Lil'Fi & Bill Jacobi sing Dr Zeus (yes -really!)

31st Lucky Wonders
Triple J Unearthed chart toppers - light, breezy, melodic

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What's On in July?

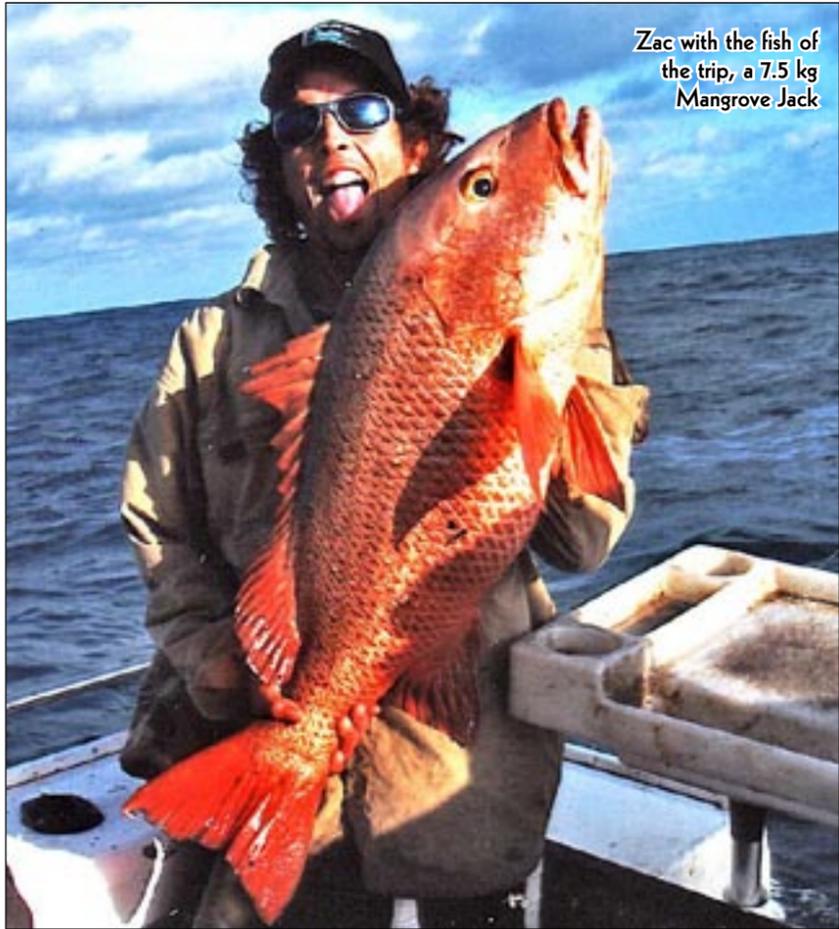
- Saturdays – Trivia Nights – 7pm – Cash Prizes
- Sunday 24th – Annual General Meeting – 10am
- Tuesday 19th – Bowls Day – 2-bowl triples – Prizes
- Sunday 31st – Club Visit from Evans Head
- Social Bowls every Sunday
- Courtesy Bus – Book at bar
- Free Broadband – Over 50's

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Fraser Island Fishing Odyssey



Zac with the fish of the trip, a 7.5 kg Mangrove Jack

by Pixie, Fishing Reporter

The Nimbin Heads annual fishing trip to Fraser Island has come and gone again and it was great. It was packed full of incidents and some great boating and fishing. This year, we had a ten-man team, three boats and five 4 wheel drives. The team was Harry, Baz, Greg, Laurie, Pix, Duey, Cal, Zac, Mark and Jessie.

It all started on the first day of the month at 4.30am, when we left Nimbin for an eight hour drive to Fraser Island. The first incident happened just past Brisbane when Harry blew a radiator hose. With that fixed, it was off to Rainbow Beach to meet up with Greg, who drove from Sydney to meet up with us. Driving along Fraser Island beach for one and a half hours is a spectacular start to being on the island, then over the soft sand headland of Indian Head without a problem and heading to Orchid Beach.

We were about a kilometre from our destination on a soft sand track, when we had our second incident. With the gooseneck holding the toe-ball snap on Pix's forby and the



First day catch Pix, Duey, Zac & Cal

boat trailer dropping off the car and into the soft sand. So with Laurie's high lift jack and Greg's forby pulling 'Pop's Tiger', we were back on the track and fishing was just around the corner.

We fished to beach gutters that afternoon, just because we could. Then the next day we fished the headlands and the beach just waiting for the seas to come good and we were eating fresh dart and tailor on the BBQ.

The next day, we just had to go to sea. It was a bit sloppy but it was improving. We were taking two boats to sea with Harry being skipper of 'Out There' and your humble fishing reporter, skipper of 'Pop's Tiger'. We launched off the beach with extension bars on the front of the boat's trailers to keep the cars out of the surf. Then out through the surf to the fishing grounds and it's all good until 'Pops Tiger' develops blocked fuel lines and it's only day one at sea.

We can only travel at four to five knots but we were still catching fish, only a bit slower. Then about an hour later, the motor came good with a burst of energy and it was all happening again. We were on to a shoal of big reef snapper and a few tuskies, with Pix and Cal landing the big snappers of the day. On 'Out There', the guys were out a bit and were hooking up on venus tusk fish and Moses perch and the day was looking good, until Baz,

when throwing out the sea anchor tangled his rod with the sea anchor ropes and overboard goes the sea anchor and Baz's rod and reel heading for the bottom of the ocean. After that we were calling him Baz, the hand line fisherman, but he was lucky Harry had a spare rod and reel.

Meanwhile on 'Pop's Tiger', it's getting late in the afternoon and most of the boats are back on shore, while we are heading towards another mark to fish a bit further south and a bit wider out, when the motor conks out right on top of a quality fishing mark. The guys are a bit concerned when Captain Seadog throws out the sea anchor and says 'don't worry about the petrol problem, we'll deal with that later, bait up and drop down.'

First up, Zac hooks up big time and is being pumped by a big fish. Then Pix, Cal and Duey all hook up. So we have a quadruple hook up and all fighting hard. We land a nice 4kg nice silver jewi each and Zac is still fighting his monster and eventually lands a 7.5 kg mangrove jack. I must say I have never seen a mangrove jack anything like it and even though it's the first day at sea, it would be hard to toss as the fish of the trip.

We then grab some more fuel out of the cabin and it's time to come back into shore through the waves and on to the beach but with big smiles on our dials. It's been a big day on both boats and it's only day one at sea and it's all good. Even though the seas were a bit rough, it's supposed to come good tomorrow and we will do it all again, but for now, it's a few beers and reef fish for tea.

The next day, the seas were still a little rough, with it supposed to improve as the day goes on, so we always live on a promise from the weatherman. And out we go with Harry, Greg, Baz and Laurie on 'Out There' and Pix, Duey Zac and Cal on 'Pops Tiger'. We all fish in close at first and we are catching spangled emperor, tuskies, red throat emperor, fingermark and pearl perch. We were catching good size fish but they were scarce. On 'Out There' Baz hooks up to a bronze whaler on a borrowed rod and has a great fight. Meanwhile, Harry is also practising on a bronze whaler. The seas are improving all the time and the sea gods are starting to turn it

on even better. We catch plenty of good reef fish and so tonight it's crumbed fingermark, tuskies and pearl perch for tea.

The next day the seas are flat and both boats are going wide and heading to North Gardeners, out about twenty clicks and we are all hooking up on a bigger variety of fish - being red throat emperor, sea bream, venus tuskfish, coronation trout, green jobfish, gold spot wrasse, black tip rock cod and reef fusiliers - a great variety of quality eating fish. Then Cal hooks up big-time and after a good struggle lands a potato cod around 8-10kg.

Being a protected species, we didn't weigh it, but took a couple of photos and released it back into the ocean. But what a great-looking fish it was, and another great day at sea. So it's reef fish for tea again - how many ways can you cook fish? And then Greg's time is up on Fraser for another year, his last day fishing is out wide, and he hooked a good variety of good-sized fish and he is smiling, so his trip back to Sydney will be



Harry & Mack Tuna

full of good memories and an esky full of quality fish.

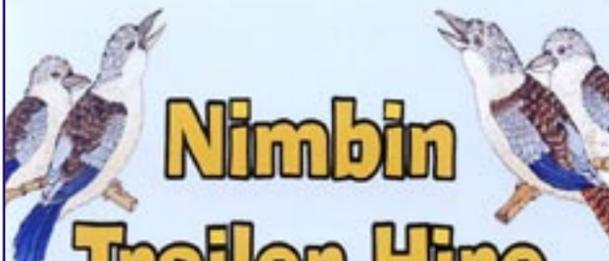
The next two days, the seas are even better, so we're going wide again thanks to the sea gods. Harry decides to troll out, and he and Laurie hook up on a couple of mack tuna. Then as they are slowly cruising past us, they throw a mack tuna on board our boat, which is just great strip bait. We were hooking up on gold-spot wrasse, grassy sweet-lip, rainbow runner, spotted hein and the biggest pink hussars I've ever seen. Then Cal lands a huge coronation trout. While all this good fishing is happening, the whales are dancing and big sharks are everywhere. Aboard 'Out There', Baz lands a 7kg cobia, and then when trolling back in, Laurie and Baz hook up to a couple of good yellow-fin tuna, just to top the day off.

After being spoilt by three days of perfect weather with virtually no swell, no wind and crystal-clear, deep blue water, the sea gods change their minds and the current picked up to a gushing pace, and fishing out wide became impossible, even when using a 1lb sinker, you couldn't hold the bottom. So we were back to fishing the gravel patch in close. But the whales were still performing, and for two days we had an albino whale calf around us. We believed it to be an offspring of Migaloo, the famous albino whale. It was a great sight.



Cal & Coronation Trout

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Pixie & 1.2 kg Camouflage Cod

The next day, the sea gods turned nasty with 20-knot winds and a 2-metre swell with the occasional larger wave coming through. From our group, only 'Pop's Tiger' went to sea, with captain Sea Dog, Laurie, Zac and Cal on board. Two other local boats also went to sea on that day. The fish were scarce, with only the two old blokes hooking up. Then while moving to another mark, 'Pop's Tiger' went through a large wave, or the wave went right over the cabin and dumped about 600 litres of saltwater on top of our heads in one second. We turn on the bilge pump to clear the water but we are now cold and wet for the rest of the morning. The old blokes are still hooking up on tuskies, then your humble fishing reporter hooks up to a camouflage fish, which didn't want to come off the bottom. Then while still fishing in the shitty conditions, a wave comes over the back and just smacks into Zac. He was almost dry but not anymore. We hit the bilge pump again. Then we come across the albino whale calf again and it's all good. Then we head back to shore to find Mark and Jessee have arrived to fish the second week with Mark's boat 'Vessel Blue'. So we have a few beers and fish for tea.

The next day, the seas are on the improve again but only good enough to fish the inside reefs. We take the three boats to sea but the current is still strong and we have to use heavy sinkers to hit bottom. As we get to our marks, we are about five clicks south and about three clicks out and we see a fishin trawler working our marks and raping the ocean. We have trouble finding fish apart from small fish that got through the nets. Then Mark, Jessee and Laurie fishing out of 'Vessel Blue' find a school of fingermarks that the trawler missed and bag out on marks first day. The weather is improving as the day goes on and Zac lands a 4kg mack tuna and Cal a big spangled emperor but the fish are still hard to find. On the way back in, Harry lands a 6kg big eye tuna while trolling, so it's beers and big eye tuna on the barby with fingermark in beer batter for tea.

The next two days the winds were howling and going to sea was not an option. So if you could get out of the wind at all, it was land based fishing or beer drinking, whichever way your choice may be.

Then the sea gods decided to give us another chance and over our last four days the seas improved a little bit more, day by day. We were fishing the gravel in close, your humble fishing reporter landed a couple of reef snapper around 4kg, Jessee landed a big 3kg spangled emperor. The fish were hard to find but they were all of good size. Then on board 'Vessel Blue', Laurie had his rod in a plastic rod holder when his bait got smashed by something big. It snapped the rod holder and he went for a last minute grab but it was too late. It took off at pace to the bottom of the ocean, the second rod overboard for the trip. He was lucky Mark had a spare to loan him and he never let go of his rod again.

With three days to go, we were still having trouble finding fish in close after the trawler cleaned the ocean floor. So we bumped our way through the waves out about ten clicks and about seven clicks south and the three boats were getting some fish. But when we were fishing, the tide changed and the fish went on the bite for an hour. We were catching venus tusk fish, red throat emperor, pearl perch, sea bream and sweetlip. But the sharks were going mad as well and they were chasing

our fish. We all lost fish to sharks.

With two days to go, it was a great skipper's day with no wind and no swell. So the three boats go out wide about 25 to 30 clicks and fish south. If you could stay away from the sharks, you could catch fish. Harry had a big hookup and his fish got chased by a shark all the way to the boat and he landed a 11.5kg green jobfish with shark teeth marks down both sides of the fish. Your humble fishing reporter was not so lucky and landed a green jobfish head about the same size with no body. Duey was pulling out some big fat bull tuskies and beating the sharks. Cal landed a big red throat which was hard to identify after it was scaled and mangled by sharks. Jessee landed a big fat gold wrasse while Mark was into the biggest tuskies he had ever seen. Pix landed a weird bright yellow thing with blue-purple down the sides and bright yellow spots, with a huge mouth and bulging frog eyes. We took a few photos and released it and it is yet to be identified. On that day, the sharks were everywhere and we all saw sharks under our boats that were bigger than our boats and we all had fish that were mangled by sharks.

When we came back to shore, the tide was low and there wasn't much water in the gutters. So retrieving our boats was a mission. Mark and Jessee snapped a pin and popped a roller off the trailer while pulling up 'Vessel Blue', then snapped a pin on their winch while waves were smashing the boat sideways on the trailer. They had a huge miss on trying to reverse the trailer under the boat having only one to one ratio on the winch while being hit by waves, Then 'Pop's Tiger' also snapped a pin and popped a roller while trying to dry drag the boat on the trailer and had to push the boat back off the trailer and repair the roller with gal nails. But we weren't in the strike zone as Mark and Jessee were. So we're all back on the beach again and tonight's tea will be a few beers and curried red throat emperor and venus tusk fish on a bed of rice thanks to tonight's master chefs Cal and Duey.

The last day and Mark is on his way back to Nimbin. So we put four guys on board both boats so 'Pop's Tiger' and 'Out There' are back out there again and having a good time again. In close, we are still having trouble finding fish, so we head through the slop about nine clicks to find some fish. It wasn't happening early so Harry, Laurie, Jessee and Baz decide to call it a day and go in early to drink the last of the beer so we didn't have to cart them back home to Nimbin.

On 'Pop's Tiger, Pix, Cal, Zac, and Duey wanted to make the most of our last day fishing Fraser Island for this year. So we moved around until we found some fish. There were no sharks around so far. But a couple of large whales were performing not far from us with big aerials and big tail flaps for about an hour. It was just great. But then back to the fishing.

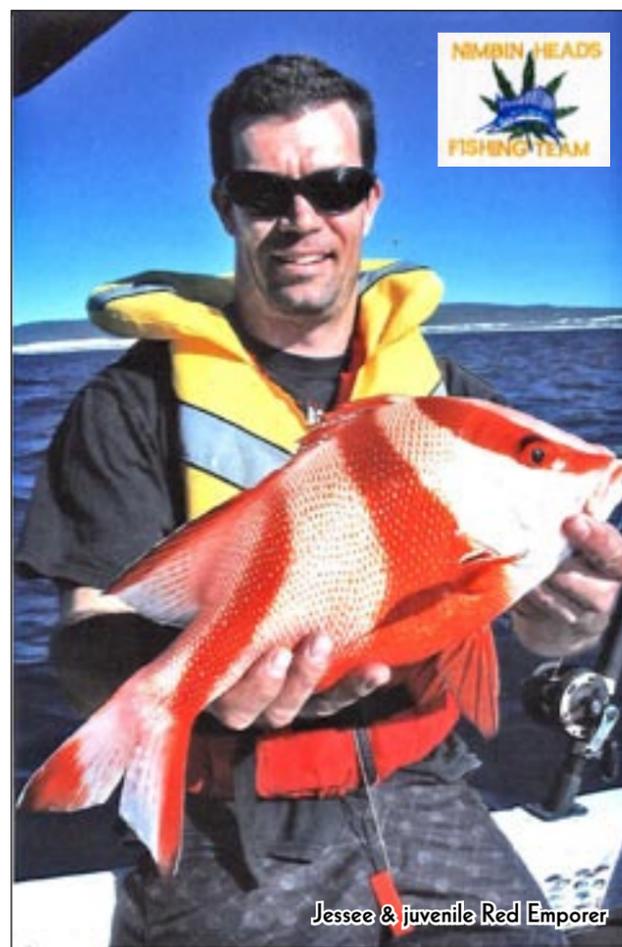
Zac had his soft plastics working and landed a 50 centimetre gold spot wrasse. Pix and Duey were pulling up a couple of big bull tuskies. Then we went through a school of moses perch around 40 to 45 centimetres and on the last drop of the trip, Cal had a double hookup on big moses perch. So then the fishing was over and we were back on the beach to help the guys drink the last of the beer.

A special thank you to you guys from Casino who didn't have much luck with the weather and missed a few days at sea. We thank you for all your excess bait you gave us. We used it all. See you guys again next year.

The trip we had was more than we could have expected thanks to the sea gods and the weather gods. All the incidents that happened, we got over with a team effort. It was good to go away with you guys, even if some of you were going to bed before big dog, and it's all good.



Baz & 7kg Cobia



Jessee & juvenile Red Emperor



Cal & Potato Cod



Greg with Venus Tusk Fish & Gold Spot Wrasse

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