

# Janelle's Page

by Janelle Saffin, MP

In the last week of the Parliamentary session I spoke on a number of issues of local concern that relate to State Government policies. I felt it was important to put these matters on the record at the Federal level. This is an edited version of what I said:

## Coal Seam Gas

This continues to be a matter of great concern in my area. It is a state jurisdictional matter, but it is an area where we have been able to get some assistance through a national partnership agreement with the states.

Two related issues that have not been focused on much are the primary health impacts on humans of coal seam gas. Another emerging issue appears in the United States geological survey which recently



Janelle and the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry, Senator Joe Ludwig, at Primex

indicated that CSG activities in the US appear to have contributed to an increase in the number of earth tremors.

There is a growing body of information and scientific research in that area.

## Workers compensation

I asked the federal minister responsible for workers compensation, Bill Shorten, a question about how the new State workers compensation legislation compares with the Commonwealth

scheme. Mr Shorten replied:

"The case which the member for Page refers to, which is also detailed in the Daily Telegraph, is about a fellow working at a desalination plant four years ago at Kurnell. I will tell you what happened to him. He lost half a foot, muscles from his thigh and half his abdomen. He doubts he will get a job again in the same industry. His medical costs pile up. He is watching his kids grow up but, because of his injuries incurred at work through no fault of his own, he cannot share the same experiences in parenting as someone who has not been put in this situation."

It is bad enough that you get injured at work, but even worse that you get injured again when Liberals get into power. If this person does not reach the 30 per cent threshold, if he were ever to return to work he would get medical payments for one year — as if your foot grows back when you get injured; as if your abdomen grows back. In Liberal land, where the workers come

second, after 12 months you get it in the neck.

## Shooting in National Parks

Shooting in our National Parks is disturbing and dangerous.

Premier Barry O'Farrell had promised that there would be no shooting in our National Parks and that there would be no deals due to his minority in the Upper House.

The Premier's decision to do a deal with the Shooters Party to allow shooting in National Parks in return for getting his electricity generators sell-off bill through, shocked people.

People are just starting to see what the coalition governments are like now that we have them in many states.

My Parliamentary speeches are available on my website [www.janellesaffin.com.au](http://www.janellesaffin.com.au)

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## Tax cuts for local workers



Local MP Justine Elliot said approximately one in every two local workers will receive a tax cut, thanks to the Federal Labor Government.

The Federal Labor Government has tripled the tax-free threshold. The changes mean that all workers earning less than \$80,000 per annum will get a tax cut. Workers earning less than \$18,200 will pay no tax at all.

Justine said "These tax cuts are great news for low and middle income earning people in our community, who will start to benefit from July 1.

"I'm proud that these changes provide income tax relief to low and middle income earners.

"We know that a lot of low and middle income earners are women who work part-time and raise a family. Local working mums are one group in our community that will really benefit.

"This Labor Government is all about helping those families in our community most in need.

"This important tripling of the tax free threshold means many local families who are already doing it tough will get more cash. It's a step in the right direction."

All Australians earning under \$80,000 stand to benefit from these historic tax cuts. For example someone earning \$20,000 will get \$600 in tax cuts. Someone earning \$25,000 will get \$500 in tax cuts. Someone earning \$30,000 will get \$300 in tax cuts.

"In total, one million Australians will stop having to lodge a tax return and over 600,000 Australians will stop paying income tax. All up, more than 7 million Australians will get a tax cut," said Justine.

## Clean Energy Plan offers opportunities for councils

Opportunities exist for local councils to cut methane pollution, create clean energy and earn extra income for communities.

Justine Elliot is encouraging all councils to look at the opportunities available to local governments under the Clean Energy Plan.

Justine said most Councils will have no carbon price liability at all from landfills. Only large sites generating more than 25,000 tonnes of carbon dioxide equivalent greenhouse gas pollution a year are covered. The majority of landfills are too small to be covered.

Justine said any local council rate rise associated with a carbon price on landfill pollution has been factored into the Federal Government's household assistance package.

"Most households will be receiving assistance of \$10.10 per week per household on average, through tax cuts, pension increases and family payments. This assistance has been carefully designed to take into account any rate rises," Justine said.

"The potential rate rise from cutting dangerous methane from large landfills is estimated, to be as low as 13 cents per household per week. As you can see, the average household assistance of \$10.10 a week would amply covers this."

In addition, local Councils can capture methane gas from landfill and be rewarded financially for cutting this pollution. This money can be invested back in the community.

The Government's Clean Energy Plan has been specifically designed to deliver these dual environmental and economic benefits.

Capturing enough methane can also reduce a council's liability below the 25,000 tonne pollution threshold and will mean that the council will not incur the carbon price.

The Government is continuing to work closely with councils to provide guidance and



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information on the implementation of these policies to cut pollution and create clean energy.

"The Government is also investing \$200 million in grants to local councils to improve energy efficiency in council buildings and street lighting to save money on energy costs. The successful recipients will be announced shortly.

"The Federal Government will continue to help families and households in local communities as Australia joins the rest of the world in making the gradual change to becoming a clean energy country," Justine said.

More information is available at [www.cleanenergyfuture.gov.au](http://www.cleanenergyfuture.gov.au) and the Regulator's website: [www.cleanenergyregulator.gov.au](http://www.cleanenergyregulator.gov.au)

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Join the campaign as we seek to return 'the experienced team' to Lismore City Council. Our villages need a fair and balanced voice to build on the successes of the past four years!

# From the Mayor's desk

by Jenny Dowell

Jenny.Dowell@lismore.nsw.gov.au

As Council moves closer to the September 8 elections, there is considerable pressure to deal with long-standing issues before we enter the official caretaker period commencing on August 10. That means that the August 14 regular Council meeting will only deal with routine matters rather than any that involve major expenditure, controversial development applications or senior staffing.

Through experience, Councillors know that briefings prior to a major decision at a Council meeting provide the opportunity for in-depth discussion and questions to staff without the time and formality constraints of a Council meeting. Consequently we spend every Tuesday evening and the occasional Thursday evening at Chambers from 6pm. The community can also attend these briefings and gain a greater understanding of the issues Councillors must deal with when making our decisions.

The June regular Council meeting contained several controversial matters. It was a very long meeting with a great deal of community interest. There were 120 people in the gallery and the spill-over room where CCTV is available to follow the action.

## Housing

Council is keen to encourage increased housing density in our

urban areas but we felt that the application for seniors' living units and a boarding house in Esmonde St Girard's Hill was an overuse of the site. We therefore asked the developer to remove the second floor of a planned new building of units. If he agrees to do so, we have delegated powers to the General Manager to approve the development. The ball is now in the developer's court to determine his course of action.

## Buddhist retreat

The proposal by the Bhodi Tree Forest Monastery to develop hilltop land at Tullera had both opponents and supporters in the Chamber. The development of a meditation retreat met some opposition from neighbouring primary producers who were concerned that there was insufficient vegetative buffer distance between their farming activities and buildings at the rear boundary of the retreat.

Council shared those concerns and has asked the applicant to increase the buffer distance. If that is done, the application can be approved by staff and does not need to come back to the Chamber for determination.

## Council properties

Some years ago, Council identified some of its properties for possible sale or lease to an external organisation. Last year, the Koala Child Care Centre was sold and at the June meeting we agreed to lease



the Gingerbread Occasional Care Centre to North Coast Childcare Services (previously known as Family Day care). We have also decided to go to an Expression of Interest for the possible sale of the Lismore Neighbourhood Centre. Council has been quick to reassure the LNC that we value their service to the community and will build into the EoI process a requirement that their tenancy needs to be considered in any offer. The LNC has also indicated that they will lodge an EoI too.

## CSG

Council decided on the working of the poll question on Coal Seam Gas too. We will ask voters 'Do you support Coal Seam Gas (CSG) exploration and production in the Lismore City Council area?' at the September 8 election. The Yes and No cases will be prepared by Southern Cross University who have also indicated that they will conduct some exit polling to gain more information on voters' decisions.

## Smoke-free

Lismore Council has taken the

lead in keeping our community safe from the effects of second-hand smoke. We have had no smoking at our children's playgrounds for more than five years and made our bus shelters smoke free in 2010. We have now developed a Draft Smoke-Free Policy that includes smoke-free at events sponsored or supported by Council, sporting fields and in the streets and footpaths of Lismore's inner CBD. The Draft Policy was developed following a survey and consultation with businesses and sporting organizations. Now it's the community's opportunity to read the Policy and give us feedback by July 23. Although the Policy does not apply to Nimbin, you can let us know your thoughts by clicking on Have Your Say on the Council website [www.lismore.nsw.gov.au](http://www.lismore.nsw.gov.au) or by asking to see the draft at the Nimbin VIC.

## City Hall

Last year Council was successful in gaining \$5million from the Federal government to upgrade City Hall. At the June meeting, we engaged Phillips Smith Conwell architects to design the works and lodge the development application. The works will include an extension to the foyer and upgrading of various aspects including lighting, rigging and access and provided a much needed facelift for the region's major performing arts facility.

## Shooting in National Parks

Cr Yarnall successfully moved an urgent motion to write to the State Government opposing the proposal to allow recreational shooters in

our National Parks. Cr Yarnall reflected the views of Park rangers, bushwalkers, tourists and apiarists that shooting could have both dangerous consequences for human safety, our economy and reputation.

## Operational plan and budget

Council also held its usual Extraordinary meeting on June 19 to adopt the 2010-2014 Delivery Plan (Amended 2012) and 2012/13 Operational Plan. These documents set out Council's plan of works, cash position, budget, borrowings, rates and fees and charges for the coming year. The drafts of these documents were on exhibition for 28 days prior to the meeting but there are always last minute requests. Despite the poor process of Council responding to late items, we agreed to provide \$2,000 for the Nimbin School of Arts grand piano repairs. The money will come from unexpended Councillor professional development allocations from 2011-12.

## Nimbin water

Thank you to the 22 residents who came to the Nimbin Bowling Club on Monday June 18 to hear the options for the future of Nimbin Water Supply. Contrary to some belief, the options are for consideration by all Nimbin water customers, not just those from the rural area. I encourage you all to look at the options and let Council know which one you prefer by July 20. You can use the Have your Say link on Council's website to get the background information and give us your feedback.

# Simon says...

by Cr Simon Clough

My 'smart' phone has shown itself to be remarkably dumb lately having predicted bright sunny weather for the last week. This is very disappointing for the aspiring cyclist who is hoping to get in an early morning ride. Still, Le Tour starts on Saturday and they ride in all weather. It's just a shame to lose so much sleep!

A record 30,000 people celebrated the shortest day of the year with the fabulous Lismore Lantern Parade. The weather obliged with a relatively warm night and the lanterns were truly amazing. I loved the way the lanterns were introduced to the crowd before the fiery finale. I was a 'bucketeer' collecting donations at the parade and unfortunately donations were significantly down on last year. It's so important to have

these regular community rituals. I remember at one of the early parades when our daughter was young seeing so much of the magic of the parade through her youthful eyes as we set adrift tiny boats with candles in them on the Wilson River (that wouldn't happen now).

I was able to find \$2,000 for the Nimbin grand piano repairs at Council's extraordinary budget meeting. Fortunately I remembered that Councillor's Professional Development allocation had not been fully spent so Councillors were able to allocate that money to projects including the grand piano repairs.

I enthusiastically supported, Cr David Yarnall whose home adjoins Nightcap National (Hunting Ground) Park when he moved an urgency motion to try and persuade

the government not to allow amateur hunting of feral animals in parks and reserves. His motion also included a plea to effectively fund the elimination of feral animals. Council passed David's motion with Councillors Battista, Marks, Meineke and Graham opposed.

In collaboration with Byron shire, our Council has been successful in obtaining \$70,000 from NOROC (the regional grouping of Councils) for a model feral animal control project. It is absolutely clear that the government's legislation has nothing to do with controlling feral animals and everything to do with securing the votes of the Shooters and Fishers Party to sell off electricity infrastructure. If it were not for a last minute amendment the government's bill would have allowed amateur shooters with self loading rifles (think Port Arthur) and pump action shotguns into the parks. Even the

government drew the line at that.

The legislation that has now been passed by the coalition even allows shooting in Rotary Park in the middle of Lismore. It would be interesting to see Mr Thomas George our local National Party member explain this issue to his constituents.

Council also voted to put the following question to the community at the local government election (September 8th): 'Do you support coal seam gas (CSG) exploration and production in the Lismore City Council area?' Councillors Battista, Graham and Meineke opposed the motion.

CSG opponents are tiring of the number of people who say "I oppose coal seam gas... but why do we need a poll of residents when we all know that people oppose it?" Needless to say, these comments come from coalition supporters who I'm sure simply don't wish to embarrass 'their' government.

The timing of the "Pond Protests" could not have been better as it coincided with Metgasco, CSG mining and the government taking some heavy hits. Metgasco has to pay a \$5,000 fine, stop dumping 'produced water' into Richmond Valley's sewerage treatment plant and increase the freeboard on its evaporation ponds.

This situation has clearly highlighted the arrogance and illegality of Metgasco's activities, but also the inability of the government

to make this industry comply with its very limited regulations. Congratulations and a big thank you to all of you who contributed to the protest, especially Davey Bob Ramsay who locked on and was arrested. It was a job well done.

For more stories on the activities of a local councillor, you can read my blog at [crsimonclough.wordpress.com](http://crsimonclough.wordpress.com) or follow me on Facebook at Cr Simon Clough.

Hoping you stay warm and dry.

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## REGGAE & ROOTS



Pacha Mamma

The line up for the festival is: Kingfisha, Brisbane; Yeshe, Byron Bay; Rhythm Konnection, Byron Bay; Fyah Walk, Byron Bay; CC The Cat, Gold Coast; Sunny Dread, Brisbane; Red Bandtoo, Byron Bay; Pacha Mamma, Byron Bay; Blaze Fire Sound, Byron Bay; Marz, Byron Bay; Selecta Bing, Brisbane; Euphonix, Byron Bay; Koby, Mullumbimby; Avoka, Byron Bay; 28;

The Nimbin Roots Festival is two days of live Roots and Culture music to be held at the famous Bush Theatre on the weekend of 4th and 5th August, with 26 acts performing on two stages.

The Bush Cafe will be serving delicious, nutritious food and beverages all day. The venue is also fully licensed and will have beer and wine available throughout both days and nights.

The festival is being proudly promoted by Xavier Avogniko productions as a family friendly event. No BYO will be permitted, and security guards will be present during all hours of the festival, 11am to 11pm both days.

Xavier said, "This event was not only born from the need to bring Roots and Culture back into our beautiful town, but also to support an amazing permaculture garden that is being created at the Jarlanbah permaculture community in Nimbin. This garden aims to supply fresh organic fruit, veggies, honey, eggs and fish to the Nimbin community and surrounding towns."

Engine Sound, Lismore; Rainbow Monkey, Goonengerry; Blak Boi, Lismore; Steldan, Nimbin; Friends Of Addicts, Nimbin; Shea O'Toole, Byron Bay, V. Grant, Byron Bay; George Peel, Mount Burrell; Agent E, Nimbin; Sista Lee, Nimbin; Johnny Ganja & Brian, Nimbin; Mick & Co, Nimbin.

Tickets are available for presale online until 21st July at [www.nimbinroots.com](http://www.nimbinroots.com) for \$41 (one day) / \$71 (two days); or at the door for \$55 / \$85. Camping is available at Nimbin Showground for \$20 per person per night.



Sunny Dread

## WHAT'S A MAN GOTTA DO TO BE MAN THESE DAYS?

This is the question award-winning songwriter and comedian Andrew Horabin (pictured) has been asking communities all across Australia with his brilliant, sell-out show *What A Man's Gotta Do* – with some hilarious and enlightening results.

'Promise he'll eventually get me out of here!' answered Sarah, 25, from Roxby Downs; 'Don't be afraid to buy fish when you can't catch them,' said Annie, 74, from Port Augusta; while Joe, 30, from Bordertown said, 'I knew I was a man when I learnt how to rebel against my parents, girlfriend (now wife) and mates – and work out which one was appropriate for a situation.'

And now Andrew is on his way to Lismore to find out what a man's gotta do to be a man in the Northern Rivers.

The show follows the story of soon-to-be-married Adam and Lucy. When Adam's Bucks spill out of a strip joint and right into Lucy's Hens, there's trouble. She says he's never gonna grow up. Adam protests. Lucy gives him 24 hours to prove he's a man – or the wedding is off!

Creator/actor Andrew Horabin says the show had its genesis back when as a 21-year-old he attended a Future Warriors retreat.

"When I arrived at the retreat, a big bloke took my bags and sleeping gear and said, 'Go out to the fire. There are some blokes already out there. But now – and for the rest of the weekend – you

can't talk about sport, where you live, what car you drive or what you do for a living.' It was pretty quiet out by that fire," Andrew said.

"The most powerful thing that hit me was the loss of community-facilitated rites of passage. In the past, all over the world – and still in some places today – they knew that a boy didn't just become a man all by himself in the gradual passage of time. He had to be made. He had to be taught. He had to be... initiated."

*What A Man's Gotta Do* plays Lismore City Hall on Saturday 21st July, 7.30pm. Tickets: Adults \$30, Conc. \$24, U/18 \$16.50. Recommended 16+ years. Contains explicit language and adult concepts. For tickets call NORPA Box Office 1300-066-772 (Mon-Fri 9am-2pm) or purchase online at [www.norpa.org.au](http://www.norpa.org.au)

### Ticket Giveaway

*Nimbin GoodTimes* readers can win a double pass to the show by answering this question: "What's a man gotta do to be a man these days in Nimbin?"

Write your answer in 25 words or less, along with your name and

phone number, and drop it into the Nimbin Community Centre (or post it to NGT Contest, 81 Cullen Street, Nimbin 2480) by Monday 16th July. The winner will be notified the next day, and their entry published next month.



Lil' Fi & Connor Cleary

## TURN ON AND TUNE IN

these sounds alive. Lil' Fi singing Janis Joplin's music is electrifying, this icon could not be as lovingly honoured or as authentically channelled by any other bluesmama. Bill Jacobi is a South Carolinian fingerpickin' genius who reinvents Country Joe and the Fish and Arlo Guthrie in his inimitable down home tramp roots style. Diana Anaid's raw mystical power is the perfect tribute to the "Queen of sex and drugs", Grace Slick. When she sings *White Rabbit* she grabs a room by the hand and takes them with her down a very trippy rabbit hole. Jimi Hendrix changed the guitar forever, his explosive technique and music is revered and positioned on a plateau of excellence yet to be surpassed. Connor Cleary could play *Voodoo Chile* by the age of ten. He respectfully nods to the spirit of Jimi then reinvents the solo and sets the stage on fire. Zardi O'Connell's voice has a purity and edge that take Joni Mitchell's songs home by way of an Appalachian mountain, all old-time and moonshine. This world class production

has been described as a "Smash Hit", as "Superb", and "Electric" and is selling out and packing rooms wherever it goes, getting audiences out of their seats and roaring for a revolution. This is the last time to catch the show in the Byron Shire for 2012, so get some flowers in your hair and get down to the A&I Hall Bangalow Saturday July 14th at 8pm. \$25. Presale tickets from Barebones Art Space 44 Byron St. Bangalow. More information at the website: [www.rainbowregiongigs.com](http://www.rainbowregiongigs.com)



James T.



The Lismore Jazz club presents *Acid Bleed* on Sunday 29th July at the Lismore City Bowling Club, at 2pm. Admission is \$10 members and students and \$15 for non members.

*Acid Bleed* is an original 6 piece band playing a virtuoso blend of Hot Gypsy Swing with a Latin Groove. The repertoire covers a range of familiar jazz standards to plucky originals, but all with the Acid treatment.

Based in the Lismore area, they have been together for three years and in that time they have been putting their stamp and their stomp on the local jazz scene. They are a popular regular house pleaser at the New Tattersall's Hotel in Lismore on Jazz nights, and have developed a loyal following of supporters and well wishers.

New vocalist, Jude Sweeney, has a powerful and dynamic voice that mixes sensitivity with raw nerve and a desperate edge. She has all



ACID BLEED

the necessary ingredients and more. Watch out!

On lead electric guitar is Adam Blenkhorn who comes from a fine jazz pedigree of professional guitar players. He was the black sheep of the family and went into medical life but nothing can hold back a true Blenkhorn. His feisty playing has been known to cause palpitations. Hold on to your pacemakers.

Jimmy Chiu on gypsy (Manouche) guitar cites Django, Bireli and Louis Pasteur as his three greatest influences. He will dazzle you

with his devilishly fast fingers. And that's even before he picks up the guitar.

Josh Kirk on upright bass regards Ron Carter as one of his mentors and his two Aston Martins as the others. He is a collector of fine double basses and even triple basses. He plays with

much heart and conviction which is why we have included a cardiologist and criminal lawyer in the line up.

Peter Costin-Neilsen is on drums/percussion and manacles, he is the mysterious and illusive Mr. Cool of the band.

Andrew Horowitz plays both tenor and soprano saxophones and electric violin. He just can't make up his mind.

We hope you enjoy the return of *Acid Bleed*. They certainly will.

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So many people have expressed their delight at hearing the sound of female voices singing in town on Mondays that it required just a little information about this in our very own *Nimbin GoodTimes*.

Our group have been singing for years in different places, and recently decided to share our songs with whoever was around on a Monday in town.

Our songs are mainly about Earth Mother, freedom, love and "What a wonderful world".

Since we started a few

weeks ago, we have had four women join in, and much appreciation expressed by our brothers and sisters.

As next year is the 40th Aquarius celebrations in Nimbin, we will be singing the 'Age of Aquarius' – anyone can join in this song.

We sing mainly acapella, with an occasional ukelele, rattles and shakers, to sing up good vibrations and the New Age/s now upon us all, rich and poor alike.

Love to you all, Moksha, Rain, Nathalie, Erin, Nicolette and Sharla – *Incantations*

## Channon folk

The Channon Folk Club July Open Mic will be held from 2pm until dusk on Sunday 22nd July at the Channon Butter Factory Tavern.

There's great music, hot food and drinks from the bar, including tea, coffee and hot chocolate. The Tavern's courtesy bus is also available for the Folk Club, but you need to book it by phoning 6688-6522.

July's Opening Act is Mal Young (pictured), so come and listen to half an hour of some sweet music, followed by our usual Open Mic.

The Channon Folk Club is a local group of "folk" who volunteer their time and talents and hold an Open Mic on the fourth Sunday of each month. Our motto is "folk and beyond" so we encourage an eclectic mix of musical styles, but still with an acoustic feel.

Usually each performer



plays three songs, just write your name on the board on the day. If you really want to play, it's a good idea to get there early, as we can't always guarantee there will be enough daylight or time to fit everyone in.

The opening act has a half hour slot, let us know by email or at the open mic, if you are ever interested.

"Bring a song, Bring a verse, Bring a friend"

See: [www.folkclub.thechannon.com.au](http://www.folkclub.thechannon.com.au) or you can follow the Folk Club on Facebook/The Channon Folk Club

## Melody, groove and feeling



Andy Jans-Brown and his band COZ\*MIC (pictured) blend melody, groove and feeling together in an uplifting album that takes the listener on a thought-provoking journey from the beauty of heartache to the wonders and highs of an existential gratitude for being alive.

Their debut double album, *Letting Go!* set to be released this month, is a celebration of all things beautifully human.

Earlier this year the song, *Dressed in a woman's clothes* from this album reached number one on the 'indie' chart at Triple J Unearthed.

Andy Jans-Brown fuses the genres of classic rock, pop, soul, R&B, folk and funk to create a very distinctive sound that has been described as easy to listen to without being easy listening. Andy simply writes

great songs that defy easy classification, but that you want to sing along to, such as *All Bets Are Off*.

Andy has toured extensively both in Australia and abroad. He has opened the show for Nick Cave and the Bad Seeds, fronting his then

Sydney band Iris alongside his friend and band mate Adrien Siboulet (SIB). He has had his songs played on national radio Triple J, and been interviewed by Rosie Beaton. His film clip, *You got me thinking* has been broadcast on *Rage*.

In Paris he performed at the FNAC store's Australian Music Week promotion on the same bill as Tina Arena.

Andy has also licensed his composition, *Despite Everything* to the Showtime Foxtel TV series, *Satisfaction*.

Discover the heap of talent that shines through in this beautifully crafted album, and watch for his east coast launch tour later this year.



a rainy, autumn day... or beautiful winter sunshine. Join them at the Sphinx Rock Cafe on Sunday 8th July.

Bowtie is a multi-national duo made up of Canadian singer/songwriter/keyboardist Allie Smith and Australian guitarist/songwriter Steven Winnall.

Bowtie's creative juices started flowing in early 2010, and have recently released their debut indie/folk E.P. entitled *Sequins*.

*Sequins* involves the blending of indie/folk elements and intimate lyrical content to create the perfect companion for

## Award-winning Kerriane Cox

Ukitopia Arts Collective is delighted to present internationally renowned, award winning, independent Aboriginal performing artist Kerriane Cox in a soul-filled night of music at Uki Anglican Church on Friday 20th July.



A troubadour in the feminine form and a leader of her community, Beagle Bay on the endangered Kimberley Coast, Kerriane is actively seeking a better vision for the First Peoples of this vast land, and ultimately a vision that includes everyone.

Kerriane's music celebrates the spiritual depth of her culture and the struggles of the First Peoples road to empowerment. Each song is a story of transformation, a healing journey towards sovereignty. Listen and share the vision from a culture that cannot be contained within stone monuments, a culture that reveres the Earth as the Mother-source of all the living!

With a powerful, soulful voice reminiscent of the great women of jazz, country and blues, Kerriane captivates and moves audiences in a very special way. She is deeply passionate about music and the healing that takes place through music. Through her music, knowledge and strong connection to land and culture she builds a bridge and encourages all to walk forward in peace and harmony together.

Tickets are \$20 (\$15 Ukitopia members) and available in advance from the Uki Supermarket and Uki Happy High Herbs store, online at [www.ukitopiaartscollective.com](http://www.ukitopiaartscollective.com) or at the door if not sold out. Hot chai and snacks for a wintry night is by Salty Sisters, and the evening will as usual be curated by Reverend John Tyman.

## OPTOMETRIST



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Tina Fuller (B. AppSc - Optometry) At Nimbin Community Centre

## Nimbin Hotel & Backpackers

53 Cullen Street, Nimbin. Ph: 6689-1246



## July Gigs

Saturday 5th	6pm	Dr. Baz
Friday 6th	7.30pm	Thorazoo
Saturday 7th	2.30pm	TBA
Sunday 8th	4pm	Angry Penguins
Thursday 12th	6pm	Bo Jenkins
Friday 13th	7.30pm	Manju and the Bad Influence
Saturday 14th	3.30pm	Holy Cow
Sunday 15th	2pm	TBA
Thursday 19th	6.30pm	OPEN MIKE
Friday 20th	7.30pm	Broadfoot
Saturday 21st	3.30pm	Kellie Knight
Sunday 22nd	3pm	Chris Fisher
Thursday 26th	6.30pm	Bill Jacobi
Friday 27th	7.30pm	Romaniacs
Saturday 28th	2.30pm	V Grant
Sunday 29th	3pm	Studio Squid

All Gigs are Free of Charge

## Hummingbird Bistro

Bistro Specials: Mon \$10 pasta; Thurs \$10 steak 250g

## NIMBIN BOWLO



25 Sibley Street  
Phone 6689-1250

## What's On in July?

- Open Mic Night – Wednesday 11th from 7pm
- Sunday 29th – Visiting Club, the Butcherbirds
- Trivia Quiz – Every Saturday, from 7pm
- Courtesy Bus – Book at bar
- Free Broadband – Over 50's
- Club closed Mondays in winter



## CHINESE RESTAURANT

- Lunch & dinner Tues – Sun
  - Friday Banquets
  - Take-Aways
- Phone 6689-1473



Home of the 'Big Bowler'

## sphinx rock café

3220 Kyogle Rd, Mt Burrell NSW 2484 P (02) 6679 7118 [www.sphinxrockcafe.com](http://www.sphinxrockcafe.com)

## Sunday Gig Guide

### July 1pm start

- 8<sup>th</sup> **Bowtie**  
Sydney-based indie/folk duo with vocals & acoustic guitar
- 15<sup>th</sup> **Bassix**  
Keeping it simple, lovin' the bass, telling stories & letting it all out
- 22<sup>nd</sup> **CBD**  
Modern Soul, built around tasteful vocal hooks & catchy grooves
- 29<sup>th</sup> **Leopold's Treat**  
Kate Leopold is joined by her band to uplift & mesmerise You

### August

- 5<sup>th</sup> **Breaking Heart**  
Brisbane folk songsmiths Michael David and Lee James

# Bush Dance celebrates two years of Farmers Markets at Blue Knob

by Jim Arachne

There's a Bush Dance at the Blue Knob Hall on Saturday 7th July. This is a fundraiser for the Blue Knob Gallery hosted by the Blue Knob Farmer's Market.

Blue Knob Gallery is an artist-run gallery. The building started life as a busy country hall in 1930, hosting many dances and local events. Unfortunately, patronage declined and during the 1980's it fell into disrepair.

From 2000 onwards local community members got together with a vision – and with extensive renovations the abandoned Hall came to life again. Blue Knob Hall artist-run Gallery and Cafe was officially opened in 2004. The Bush Dance fundraiser will allow the Gallery to continue upgrading the building that has hosted so many beautiful exhibitions and encouraged many local artists.

The date of the Bush Dance is also the Blue Knob Farmer's Market second birthday and the first local Pumpkin Festival – so lots of activities, fun and frolics – including a Pumpkin Talent Quest, a short presentation on the two years of the Market, a Market Birthday cake, a pumpkin display with heaps of pumpkin inspired food (plus other choices for those people who inexplicably don't like pumpkin) and loads of dancing!

Doors open at 5pm, food served from 5.30pm, a "called" Bush Dance begins at 6.30pm. Tickets (food included in entry price) from the market and the Organic Shop in Nimbin and on the night – \$20 single, \$30 couple, \$40 family (negotiable).



The Bandicoots who, with Inspiralling, Dave Davies and Julie Metcall's Folkmasters, will provide the music for the Bush Dance

## Talks at Blue Knob Market for July

• **Saturday 7th July, 10am – Everything You Wanted to Know About Growing Pumpkins, John Leadbeater.**

To open the first Blue Knob Pumpkin Festival, an excellent presentation on growing pumpkins. John has been growing Queensland Blues, Potkins, Banana squash and loads of other pumpkin varieties for more than 20 years. He supplies markets in Lismore, Casino, Alstonville and Kyogle and trucks out several tonnes from his farm every year.

If you've eaten pumpkin from Mt Burrell chances are you've eaten one of John's pumpkins. Sowing, fertilizing, harvesting, storing and eating, interspersed with pumpkin anecdotes – there's not much that John doesn't know.

Come and find out more about one of Australia's favourite vegetables.

• **Saturday 28th July, 10am – Starting A Vegetable Garden from Scratch, Paul Eleftheriou**

This is a hands-on workshop for the absolute beginner. You'll start with a patch of bare backyard and finish with a thriving garden

bed planted with seedlings. This is a real-life project to establish a small garden bed for greens and herbs to help supply the Blue Knob gallery café. The workshop will start with some preparation of bio-char for use in the garden. However, the main focus is on giving gardening beginners some hands-on experience and skills in setting up your own garden.

Paul grew up on Cyprus where vegetable growing is still part of the local culture. In Australia he gained a Cert IV in Organic Farming and over the last 10 years has sold his vegetables in many regional markets.

Please bring gloves and garden clothes for this workshop. There'll be a small charge of \$5 for materials – such as garden edging, fencing and compost.

If you'd like to hear about other seminars and events at the Blue Knob Farmers Market please send your name and email to Jim at [uloborid8@gmail.com](mailto:uloborid8@gmail.com)

*The market runs Saturdays, rain, hail or shine, 9am to ~12.30pm, corner of Blue Knob and Lillian Rock Roads, 8km from Nimbin, in the grounds of the Blue Knob Gallery.*

# Nimbin Community Web Portal project launch



The Nimbin Community Centre, with the assistance of the Chamber of Commerce, has been successful in attracting funding from NSW Trade & Investment to establish a web portal for the Nimbin community. We have applied for and secured the domain name [nimbin.nsw.au](http://nimbin.nsw.au).

The objective of this project is to provide non-profit community services and organisations working within Nimbin and the surrounding region the opportunity for a free web-presence, as well as generally enhancing the online profile of Nimbin.

The portal is at the address [www.nimbin.nsw.au](http://www.nimbin.nsw.au). As part of the initial phase of the project, sub-sites are being constructed for the Nimbin Chamber of Commerce, [www.chamber.nimbin.nsw.au](http://www.chamber.nimbin.nsw.au); Nimbin School of Arts, [www.schoolofarts.nimbin.nsw.au](http://www.schoolofarts.nimbin.nsw.au); Nimbin Preschool, [preschool.nimbin.nsw.au](http://preschool.nimbin.nsw.au); and the Cultural Centre, [www.culture.nimbin.nsw.au](http://www.culture.nimbin.nsw.au)

The Nimbin Community web portal is being built using the Joomla content management system, which allows authorised users to change their information, update details and write a blog/newsletter through a simple online interface

requiring no prior knowledge or html skills.

Training and online manuals will be provided for those taking part in the project. The Nimbin Community Centre will provide all hosting costs, admin and support.

The web portal offers three levels of involvement for non-profit organisations and services within the Nimbin area:

### 1. Reciprocal Link

A link to your webpage for all non-profit community organisations. We ask for a link back to the Community Portal from your site where possible, as this increases accessibility and search engine ranking for both sites. (This service will continue indefinitely).

### 2. Profile Page

A page within the portal containing information, links and images relating to your organisation, service or event. (This service will continue indefinitely).

### 3. Supported Website

Support to develop a website with up to five pages and potential to include a blog, photo gallery, links, online contact form and/or events calendar. (This service is limited by the funding, so only the first groups to apply will have access to this option).

The new website [www.nimbin.nsw.au](http://www.nimbin.nsw.au) will be launched on 17th July between 5.30pm and 7pm at the Nimbin Community Centre Dance Studio. It will include information on how to make the most of the portal and a light supper will be provided.

Bookings are required. Contacting Nina at the NCC office on Mondays or Tuesdays between 9am and 5pm on 6689-0000, email [ncci@nimbincommunity.org.au](mailto:ncci@nimbincommunity.org.au) or come into the office.



## Most Sustainable Produce in 2012 Nimbin Show

Are you a local sustainable agricultural producer? We welcome you to showcase your innovations at the 2011 Nimbin Agricultural Show! **Get Your Entry Forms In** for this EXCITING Exhibit Category.

Sustainable = the production has minimal negative or even a positive impact upon the environment, & practices may include water conservation and recycling, use of organic fertilisers/soil improvement methods, organic pest management, animal husbandry with strong focus on animal welfare and land care.

Entries will be accepted for all food/agricultural produce. Entries can be submitted for an entire farm or operation. More than one entry can be submitted. Judging will be based on the sustainability of production practices, and not the quality of any products.

**Entries Close: Monday 20th August 2012**

Entry Forms Available at: Nimbin Neighbourhood and Info Centre  
71 Cullen St Nimbin 2480 [admin@nimbinnic.org](mailto:admin@nimbinnic.org) or download from our website [www.nimbinnic.org.au](http://www.nimbinnic.org.au)  
Queries to Nat or Guy on 6689-1692



**BLUE KNOB FARMERS MARKET**  
Fresh local produce for a sustainable future

Seasonal produce & seedlings  
Grind your grain - Community grain mill  
Self-sufficiency & Sustainability workshops  
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**Saturday 9am - 1pm Rain, Hail or Shine**  
Cnr Blue Knob & Lillian Rock Roads, Blue Knob  
8kms north from Nimbin  
Contact Peter 6689-7484  
Email: [blueknobfarmersmarket@gmail.com](mailto:blueknobfarmersmarket@gmail.com)

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COMMUNITY RADIO

# Hemp headlines



Billboard in Colorado located across the street from the Denver Broncos' stadium, funded by the recently formed Moms and Dads for Marijuana Regulation. Although Colorado has legalised medical marijuana, those who distribute the drug still risk running afoul of federal law, but this November the state will vote on the Regulate Marijuana Like Alcohol Act (Amendment 64).

**Australian MPs to push for probe into drugs laws** [SMH 27/6 Richard Willingham]: Liberal MP Mal Washer, Greens senator Richard Di Natale (who are both doctors) and independent Rob Oakeshott have called on the government to ask the Productivity Commission to investigate the current adequacy of illegal drug laws. They aim to take politics out of the law reform debate. Decriminalizing drugs will now be investigated by Australia's top independent policy adviser under a plan championed by this trio of federal MPs from different sides of Parliament. In April a report from the Australia21 think tank argued the "war on drugs" and tough stance on illegal substances had failed, sparking debate and gaining support for decriminalising personal use from eminent Australians, including former police commissioners and premiers.

**Advocates sue NYC police over marijuana arrests** [Reuters 22/6 Joseph Ax]: A legal aid group sued the New York City Police Department on Friday, saying officers had illegally arrested thousands of people for small quantities of concealed marijuana instead of issuing them tickets as required by law. The lawsuit wants the court to declare such arrests unlawful and issue an injunction to stop officers from making them. The suit marks the latest line of attack by civil rights advocates against misdemeanour marijuana arrests, which have skyrocketed in New York City in recent years, from about 2,000 a year in 1990 to more than 50,000 annually in 2010 and 2011.

**Is Uruguay About To Become The First Country To Legalize Cannabis?** [NORML 20/6 Allen St Pierre]: Uruguay is moving towards becoming the first country, since the signing of the Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs in 1961, with a tax-n-regulate policy for non-medical access to cannabis products. The country previously decriminalized cannabis possession in the 1970s.

**Prof. Nutt: alcohol consumption would fall 25% if cannabis cafes were allowed** [Guardian 19/6 Alan Travis]: The former UK government adviser on drugs has told MPs that alcohol consumption would fall by as much as 25% if Dutch-style cannabis "coffee shops" were introduced in Britain. Prof David Nutt also told the Commons home affairs committee that he stood by his claim that horse-riding was more dangerous than taking ecstasy, despite the fact that the comparison triggered his sacking as chairman of the advisory committee on the misuse of drugs (ACMD).

**US/Mexico Drug War "Caravan of Peace" Gearing Up** [Stopthedrugwar 19/6 Phillip Smith]: Aghast and appalled at the bloody results of Mexican President Felipe Calderon's war on drugs, which has resulted in at least 50,000 deaths since he deployed the military against the so-called drug cartels in December 2006, dozens of organizations in Mexico and the US have announced that they will take part in a "Caravan for Peace" that will journey across the US in August in a bid to change failed drug war policies on both sides of the border.

Web links to these stories and others at [www.hempembassy.net](http://www.hempembassy.net) or tune in to the Hemp Hour on Nim-FM 102.3 on Fridays at midday.



## Nimbin Servo

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Stock food – horse & cattle food, pet food, frozen pet meat and bones

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# Shop GO

# Last night I had the strangest dream

by Brendan (Mookx) Hanley

It's another one of those piss-awful, pissing down rain, piss-me-off Saturday mornings in Lismore. I'm wondering what I might possibly do with this particular pissy rainy day when I hear a familiar "coo-ee". I open the door to Linz. "Hi mate! Happy Saturday. How'd ya like to go to the Cannabis Cup?"

Half an hour later we're in the Nimbin Hemp Embassy looking at pipes and bongos and new digital vapourisers that look like mobile phones. The idea is, you smoke the essence, not the dense, harmful (albeit organic) ingredients that are present in smoke. You get a super-high hash-like-only-lighter-all-head-not-body-stone from any old shit because only the cannabins (the shiznit) gets through. Lungs are okay and heads are away!

Eventually a little old 4 wheel drive rocks up and we set off out of town for a secret destination which had been donated for the day by a local family who are obviously amazing people and off their trolleys at the same time! "Don't come over on Saturday darling. We're having a horde of stoners over for the Cannabis Cup!"

We go down this track and park with a few other cars... maybe a dozen or so. We back in, right on the driveway ready for a convenient exit. We climb a few steps onto a big verandah already half-full of people around a table chokka with good-looking nibbles, a sorta bar up the end and groovy Nimbinish people grooving Nimbinishly, having a beer, a wine, a ciggy, a rave and blow me down... a joint!

Now I ask you, if you were going to judge a wine, a beer, a whiskey... whatever... would you be having drinks beforehand? Well as it turns out, that's exactly what



This year's Cannabis Cup was won by the Cleverman strain, in both indoor and outdoor categories, while the bubble hash winner was produced from a self-sown plant, found growing in Nimbin village.

these folks are here to do... judge the best marijuana of the just-past season... as are the extra mob of locals and global travellers who keep arriving over the next hour in cars that continue to pour in and park wherever they can, mostly in the mud. Somebody counted 80 vehicles!

The big verandahs soon fill up with lots of bearded men and smiling women, locals, yokels, tokers, smokers and backpackers who have accidentally won a pub raffle and now find themselves poised on the psychedelic adventure of their lives... a million miles from home and about to leave the planet!

There are rules of course, and procedures, and precedents and all of it. There are six top entrant organic outdoor bush heads, three local indoor hydro entries (which are such tight buds they have the texture of potatoes) and half a dozen local hash blends to be judged. They are displayed on a table in a dedicated room, and judges are required to pass through in an orderly fashion to feel, smell, evaluate and choose six heads and three hashes in their order of preference and to write their numbers

down on a form. Judges being the whole stoned horde!

Everyone comes out raving about number nine. It seems it stinks like shit! And that's a huge compliment in dope-speak! After about an hour or so, all the selection forms are handed in and officials move in to expertly break up the soon-to-be-judged offerings into toke-size portions for placement on appropriate paper plates and distribution to the throng of willing mostly already-stoned judges.

Then a period of about 90 minutes is dedicated to the entire mob smoking their way laboriously through the best of what Nimbin has to offer this year... via a huge collection of bongos, pipes, papers... whatever gets you off! We are playing lots of music out on the veranda and people are singing along. Very enthusiastic!

The sudden silence is beyond profound. Conspiratorial trysts take place all around. Whispers, knowing glances, murmured mentions... it's all part of the play. They sift, sniff, salivate, meditate, motivate and practically masturbate. Number nine is so good nothing else even touches the sides. What did you think of number three? Number seven had no body! Number five was absolute shit! (That can mean either good or bad actually!)

Eventually all the judgements are handed in and winners are calculated, announced, awarded and celebrated. A group photo is taken... short speeches are made... and a major mayhem major traffic-bog-jam is sorted out by a hundred or so stoned hippies in a way that can only happen in Nimbin... as night falls and it continues to rain.

Then I woke up! It's another one of those piss-awful, pissing down rain, piss-me-off Saturday mornings in Lismore.

## STREET SHUFFLE

Journal of the North Coast's longest serving covert by Undacuva

### 'Drug tests for the dole' says Unda

You've probably noticed the building alterations already happening in some Dole Stations. This heralds a whole new era for you hippies. Drug testing for the dole.

The Boss is keen as mustard, and of course the Force voted for it at every opportunity. It was the jealous hot and sweaty miners who started it but then the survey made it real. 97% of LTE's agreed (Long Term Employed-the Gov's faves).

Survey wording is an art and this is how they did it. "Is it fair to drug test unemployed recipients of Government money the same as employed recipients are tested?" 97% ticked yes!

They hate you dole bludging hippies, and especially on

Monday mornings when the survey was deliberately done no doubt. The testing will be random of course but it's still estimated the jobs created by this new department, attached to Newstart, NDTD, will lessen the National dole queue itself by almost 8%. And by up to as much as 40% at....'Stations servicing Nimbin environs'.

I can also warn you the websites selling fake strap on bladders with warmers and optional rubber penises will be monitored for imports to Australia. The Boss also voted for the peeing room to be, 'built of two way mirrors on all sides, including the door'. "Better than cameras," he stressed and of course the Force are the gurus on issues like this. "Outsmarting the cunning public is our job."

Within two years they plan

for every dole recipient to contribute, 'a minimum of three centimetres of pee into a plastic cup at least once a fortnight'. They already have contracts lined up to sell it to fertilizer plants.

I visited Pipes camp where the news sent a ripple of panic through the smoke. More growers to compete with was the biggest worry. "Kick them off the dole and they turn to crime straight up," he says. So many like him it seems are just going bush and growing. In caves, in sheds, in wardrobes and warehouses, trucks and buses, ceilings and swamps.

"It's not called weed for nothing. It grows like one and it grows anywhere. In any climate and circumstances. And the demand just grows and grows, especially for the mountain bush. Twenty foot tall with all that rain but not as strong as usual with less sun." Still, I slept like a log at his camp after smoking only half a pipe.

No one seems to care about

losing the dole. It's like slowly the respect for Lady Grant and the others in Canberra, as Pipe calls her, has fallen to such a low ebb they are almost irrelevant. "So what if we have to live on throwaways and bush tucker," laughed a fairy, after she was stoned though I noticed. "Makes it all the more fun if we have a bit of a challenge, and it sure is hard to starve in these hills with Pipes hunting skills."

Almost on cue he walked into the camp with a wallaby slung over his shoulder. "From the sharp bend near the bridge again," he says as he placed it beside the fire. "Roadkills alone could keep us alive up here with a few wild greens. And as Franklin taught us: 'Dope will get us through times of no money better than money will get us through times of no dope.'"

The Boss keeps asking me, "Who is this Franklin? Make him your priority Bethany. Find out everything about him." He thinks it's a new Nimbin Guru.

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nimbinpoetry.com

## Nimbin Performance Poetry World Cup



TOWN HALL

# 2012 AUGUST 4<sup>th</sup> + 5<sup>th</sup>