



THE NIMBIN GOOD TIMES

Frank and FREE

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Photo: Chibo Mertineit

Rally calls for kids off Nauru

About 150 people rallied to support the 'Kids off Nauru' (and their families too) campaign at Lismore City Hall on Saturday 27th October.

They were standing up for people who are voiceless and defenceless. 296 letters were written to politicians. Three speakers described how off-shore detention was destroying lives. Cath Napier had worked on Nauru with Save the Children, so could talk from first-hand experience.

Janet Wilson has been in one-to-one contact with men on Manus for years, and could explain the destroyed lives they are enduring.

The Winsome choir led a song written for the asylum seekers and everyone joined in. A minute's silence followed, with hands held high and wrists crossed. This was a moving and fitting end to the rally.

Currently there are 47 children on Nauru. The government has stopped fighting every medical transfer in court. New arrivals however are being put into on-shore detention centres and not the community. The new arrivals will add to the three children currently in on-shore detention.

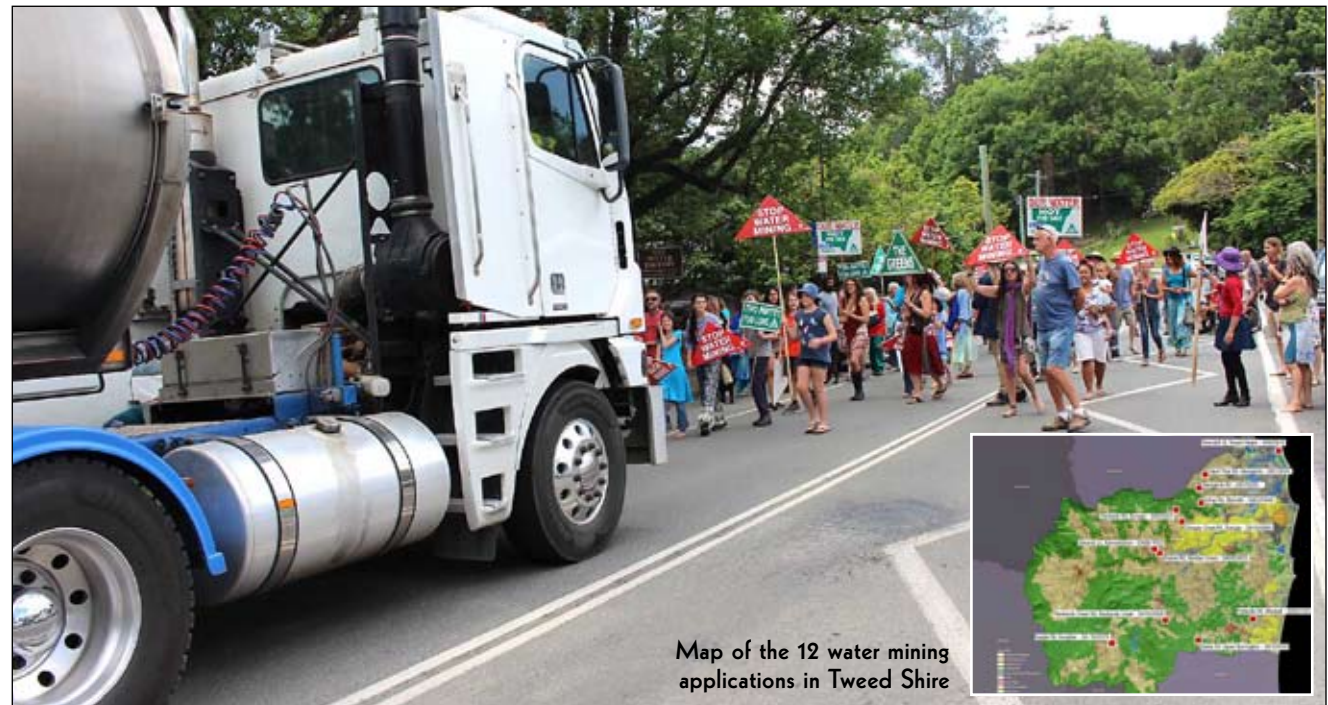
There are many stories of what off-shore detention looks like, none of them good.

The last man to commit suicide on Manus Island, Sri Lankan Rajeev Rajendran, 32, had a wife and children living in Australia. He was told he would never be allowed to go to Australia, and the distress caused him to lose his mind. He jumped off a moving bus and a wheel ran over his head.

This did not need to happen, it is the result of a deliberately cruel and inhumane policy designed to deter people who are fleeing for their lives. This is the reality of off-shore detention. We must end this once and for all. We must end it now.

Please write to or phone your local member and the Prime Minister's office and let them know.

For over 70 weeks every Thursday between 4.30 and 5.30pm, groups of people have been protesting in front of our local National Party MP, Kevin Hogan's Lismore office at 61/63 Molesworth Street. Everyone is welcome to join in.



Map of the 12 water mining applications in Tweed Shire



Uki residents take action on water mining

by Julie Beesley, Tweed Water Dragons

A recent approval for a property owner at Rowlands Creek Road has many residents in and around Uki worried about the danger of large trucks on narrow roads.

They are also upset that the four operators are running trucks outside of their approved hours, often early in the morning and on weekends.

These residents are calling for the rules to be applied, and tanker trucks

to be stopped when they are operating unlawfully.

A group stopped two trucks carting water through Uki on a Saturday when they are forbidden.

Now, more water mining applications have been prepared for Council, and Tweed Shire is becoming the water mining capital of Australia.

We live in this stunning region largely because we appreciate the beauty and tranquillity of our unique pristine environment.

Massive amounts of water are being

pumped from the earth and trucked to bottling plants where it's put into disposable plastic bottles for sale.

This is another sharp blow to the environment and a big con-job, as tap or tank water is better anyway. It's on our doorstep.

We need to come together as a community to stop water mining.

I propose a community meeting to discuss how we can better support the Uki residents in their push to stop this insidious wrong-doing.

Contact: www.facebook.com/tweedwaterally



Photos: Julie Beesley (top), Dave Norris

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