



Tunable kitchen fundraiser

Perhaps this should have been called a Kitchen (Tun-) Table production, as there were so many well-known Tuntable type involved in every stage of the organisation.

From arrival, where a welcoming committee (above left) were on stamping and fanning duty, to the catering and refreshment stands, to the lights and sound, even to most of the bands themselves (such as The Hoochers, above right), there was a Tuntable connection everywhere at this 11-hour gig on the long weekend.

And the centrepin of that connection was Tim Tonkin, who was everywhere in

support, including performing with the Durga Babies, now boasting new bassist Shannon Tait.

Feature act, King Farook (above centre) from Sydney, kept the packed hall rocking until 2am. No-one went home disappointed.

Alright, it was huge, Another is planned.



Mick Daley



Aussie Day at the Bowlo

Patriotic to the bootstraps. You can't get much more Australian than going to a Bowling Club for Australia Day, can you? All the flags were flying at the Nimbin Bowlo, where a real Aussie BBQ was served, and social bowls enjoyed between showers of rain.

The Tuntable Bush Band (above), featuring Bob Campbell, entertained locals and visitors alike, scattering a few Irish tunes into the session, "to keep the Aussies on their toes."

Rock of (all) ages

by Pampussycat

The Good Times were upon us again, at Byron's Red Devil Park on Saturday 31st January, where Eddie Boekelman and partner Cathleen Wilson put together the Legends of Rock concert, with a line up of many of the Aussie rock and roll greats.

Eddie said he wanted to put on an event and see his musician friends play together on the North Coast. He played keyboards with Stevie Wright on the night.

His partner, Cathleen grew up in Nimbin. She said that each of us has limited time on the earth, and some of the musicians have had health scares. "It was good for the musicians to do the show, we never know when our number will be called," she said.

Indeed some performers have had big health scares. Stevie Wright, who topped the bill for the night, has recovered from illness, as has his partner. Kevin Borich has undergone chemotherapy for a rare form of cancer, which others like Marc Hunter of Dragon have already succumbed to. The Cancer Council had an information and fundraising tent.

The rain stayed away for the day, although clouds and wet weather enveloped the rest of the north coast. The sound was big, and the crowd were ecstatic, dancing and singing loudly along with the songs.

The line-up was mind blowing. The Last, 1989 (from Brisbane), The Bostocks, Smokin Jo, Ferramones, Buffalo's Dave Tice, Mark Evans of AC/DC, Phil Emmanuel (guitar great!), GANGajang,



Stevie Wright



Angry Anderson



The Bostocks

Kevin Borich (Kevin Borich Express), The Party Boys, John Swan (Swanee), Masters Apprentices, Ian Moss (Cold Chisel and solo fame), Angry Anderson (Rose Tattoo), and Stevie Wright (Easybeats and solo fame).

There was also a second stage where Future Legends were playing. Amongst them were locals Jay Jackson and Jo Daley, and Daniel Pearson. I was amazed to see some of the HOT youth guitarists and singers. Special mention goes to 11-year old Steffi, who's got the voice and the moves to make it!

Smokin Jo is only 17 and is one of the guitar greats of Australia. From Kempsey where there were only 3 kids in the music class, he had classical piano training, but was more interested in guitar. His first tutor told him after a year of lessons that there was no more he could teach him. He met his idol Phil Emmanuel, who worked with the talented



Steffi

Jo. Smokin Jo has played in Europe, America, and won as top guitarist at Tamworth. Watch out for him!

The night ended with a hot performance by the legendary Stevie Wright. He howled out the Easybeats classics, and his own hits, and the crowd went wild! Red Devil Park resonated with the sounds of several thousand voices during "Evie" and "Friday on my Mind".

Rock is not dead. The Classic Legends live on. Catch these artists as they do a few gigs on the north coast. What a night!

53 Cullen Street, Nimbin
Phone 6689-1246

February Gig Guide

| | |
|--------------|--------------------------------|
| Thursday 5th | Allyannya + Steve Park |
| Friday 6th | Thora Zoo |
| Friday 13th | The Vue |
| Sunday 15th | Bassix |
| Friday 20th | The Wishing Well |
| Sunday 22nd | Claude Hay+Solo Support |
| Friday 27th | Invisible Friend |

– Friday gigs start 7.30pm –

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Nimbin Bowlo

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What's On in February?

- **Valentines Day at the Bowlo**
Saturday 14th February – Enjoy a romantic dinner, decor by the Ladies Club and Marcus Makin entertaining at the keyboard from 7pm.
- **Twilight Bowls** every Friday
- **Sunday Social Bowls** from 9.30am

- Air-conditioned lounge, bar and dining room
- Courtesy Bus

- Lunch & dinner Tuesday - Sunday

February:

8th – Antibodies + Ilona Harker + DJ Mercer + Koa

15th – Sonic Soundwaves

22nd – Imandan

March 1st – Osmosis

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Regional asset?

Over the holidays we have had a few visitors stay from interstate and are frequently asked, why the local council does not do more to beautify and upgrade facilities in Nimbin. Their home towns often have beautiful parks and gardens, maintained by paid council staff...not just paid to come every so often to prune and chop - but regular maintenance involving replanting, feeding and watering.

I can't help coming back to this sense of discrimination that exists when it comes to Nimbin. We still have a great big ugly fence and container in the middle of the CBD for Telstra with a row of phone booths that sit in the full afternoon sun...it's all very strange. In other towns, I have seen beautiful creepers covering such ugly fences and modern phone facilities built with planning and consideration.

I believe we deserve planning and consideration, beautification, shade and

regular maintenance of our parks and gardens...which we need more of. Nimbin does not consist of only a few hundred people living in the town (although numbers shouldn't matter), we are many thousands of people living in and around Nimbin's hills and valleys.

Added to that, many thousands of visitors every year hang around in a town that is sometimes so stifflingly hot, with very few friendly facilities besides the cafes and shops. These visitors bring in income, not only to Nimbin, but to many of the surrounding towns - it seems as though Nimbin should be considered a regional asset, not a liability!

Tarang Bates

A Warning

I had an associate from the Gold Coast visit Nimbin last year - a nice woman who found Nimbin town a tad confronting, she is married to a developer. Over lunch, as she tentatively brushed the imaginary germs from her

sandwich, she confided that the Mebbin Estate would never go forward because it was too close to 'this place'. This place, being Nimbin.

It got me to thinking about the blessings of the street scene here. Nimbin town is colourful, friendly and a little grubby. Personally I would not change it for the world.

It is a bit of a dilemma for me because heavy drugs that blow holes in auric fields and leave one feeling miserable and sick later, are definitely not my favourite thing.

In the days when people only smoked bush gunga, many had an attitude of community through love and peace. Nimbin was so beautiful, although it was rough living for many as they attempted to bring in a new way of being.

But even then, my developer friend would have been brushing her sandwich and looking around with nervous apprehension.

So this is a little warning to those who want to clean up the streets of Nimbin.

Even though we all bitch about it at times, let's face it, this place is still absolutely unique. It gives an economy through the young tourists and most important of all, apparently it keeps the developers of air-conditioned

concrete pads well away.

Perhaps if we clean up the streets we may soon find our special country spaces being invaded by one hundred concrete blocks or so within cooee of our front doors, such as is happening in Murwillumbah.

Tonia Haynes

Hell bent

I'd just like to say that any articles I have written in the NGT, unless explicitly stating otherwise, have been my own personal opinions. If any articles were on behalf of the Nimbin Branch of the Labor Party, then they have been signed off as its secretary, and following a branch motion on that issue.

Additionally I now am no longer a member of the ALP, largely because of the Internet censorship, which the Federal Government seems hell bent on imposing on Australia.

Peter Godden

Repco Rally

Whose idea was it to want to race petrol-guzzling mufflerless motorcars through the forested alternative district? Is Repco corporation in danger of being seen as ignorant, or arrogant?

Imagine the media pack, and the uncouth cola-swilling types, who would tag along in

Notices

Wanted to rent

A 3 bedroom house in Nimbin or out of town. Very good, clean and tidy tenant, reliable and honest. Contact Tammy on 0421-153845

Room to Let

Room to Let at the Nimbin Community Centre. Non-residential, 52sqm, freshly painted with long term lease available. \$89 pw plus bond and bills. Contact Marcus at the NCC Office on 6689-0000 or email ncci@nimbincommunity.org.au

Rainbow café get-together

The date for the evening of reminiscing for past staff of the Rainbow Cafe will be Friday 13th February from 6pm. bring stories and photos. Thanks, Jodee

Peace and Love in Nimbin on Valentine's Day

Near the pond in Nimbin Community Centre grounds from 5pm, Saturday 14th February.

Food, drinks, sing a song, then dance to love beats and light show by Kaliedoscope Chris. Donations to Nimbin Aquarius Foundation Inc., supporting Nimbin's murals.

Tunable Celtic Cafe

The Friday cafe and acoustic folk session is on Friday 6th February from 5pm with down-home leek and potato soup and home brew and again on 20th February with yummy Jamaican food. All musicians and singers are invited to join in, on the terrace at the shop, or inside if its raining.

Tunable Sunday dinners

The Douvris family is hosting a "Tunable Cafe" night one Sunday evening a month for members, guests and friends of the community. Musicians are very welcome too.. Next dinner is Sunday 22nd February, from 6pm at the shop.

the exhaust fumes. The US fried chicken boxes strewn along the roadside; the toilet stops. Perhaps Repco could go back to Indianapolis.

Upton and his crew would do well to get to work in an organic garden. One supposes that such rev-heads would have no idea the planet is in difficulties.

However, I believe our local men (*sic*) will be able to defend us against these motorised columns.

Vyvyan Stott
Leycester Creek

Skate Park motion

I'd just like to point out a factual error in your last NGT re the Nimbin skatepark. Vanessa did not put forward a motion to fund the park to the tune of \$50,000 - it was me, seconded by Dave Yarnell.

There are on-going discussions about the skatepark and I'm hopeful we will have a resolution that will see the young (and not so young) people skating etc on a fully functioning facility.

Cr Simon Clough

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Monte Dwyer visits Nimbin

One of the legends of brekky TV, Monte Dwyer, called into Nimbin at the end of January, looking for stories for his self-produced segments *Bush Postcards* on Channel 7's *Sunrise* program.

His Winnebago, "kitted-out to the back teeth with Telstra's flashiest communication gear" has been around most of Australia since he set off from the Sunrise Sydney studios on 20th October last year, "taking the pulse of society".

A more practical reason for his trip is to promote his book and CD of songs, *Red in the Centre*, written during a 70,000 km trip around Australia in 2007.

Born in Newcastle and trained as a psychiatric nurse, Monty has worked as a professional fisherman, fashion model, foreign aid worker and (failed) property developer, before training in Theatre Arts in Darwin in the late '80s and ending up presenting the weather for the local ABC TV station.

His antics were so outrageous that he was noticed by Channel 9 and given the same gig on their national breakfast show, *Today*, a role he performed from 1991 until 2002.

From 2007, Monte travelled around Australia recording interviews for Charles Wooley's radio series "Across Australia", which led to the *Red in the Centre* project.

He returned to breakfast TV on 7's Sunrise program in October 2008, saying, "After being away from the medium for so long I'm



Fully equipped. Monte Dwyer, with van, and fan (inset), Vicki Hunter.

seriously looking forward to running amok again."

But Monty's Odessey has not all been a smooth ride. On 26th November he wrote in his blog, "Christ, how I'm supposed to keep this fresh I've no idea. I'm six weeks into the Postcards trip now and I'm ready to be taken away in a bin."

Perhaps that feeling led to his decision to visit Nimbin. His greeting by the locals was certainly, well, fresh.

Monte's Sunrise segments air on Fridays.

Simon says...

by Councillor Simon Clough

Nimbin's extensive range of community organisations (I sometimes feel it's the "Community Capital of Australia") have been hard at it, even over the Christmas-New Year break. Good to see you are keeping us on our toes!

Unfortunately my motion at the last Council meeting failed to have the Nimbin skate park funded from the "Rudd money". Since then the new Executive Director of Development and Governance Brent McAlister has taken up the issue and will be holding a meeting later in the month. He is committed to trying to find a solution for this vital part of community infrastructure. You know it IS vital when the Local Area Police Commander voluntarily supports the funding of the skate park.

Blue Knob Hall is seeking



some relief from the s94 contributions that it has to pay for its new workshop. With the \$5,000 grants to all rural halls from the "Rudd money", Blue Knob and other local halls should be able to attack some priority projects. I wish Council was in a position to give all non-profit organisations a complete exemption from s94 contributions.

I will be proposing at the next meeting that Council waives its requirement that the Nimbin Neighbourhood Centre provide mortgage security before it gives a

community grant under the s94 funding. It does not seem fair that this extraordinary community organisation should lose some of its independence when the Hall Committee has not had to offer any security for a similar grant.

2009 is looking like a demanding year on Council. The February meeting will be considering Champion's Quarry at Tucki, a very large project. March should see the consideration of the North Lismore Industrial development, another large project. I already have 12 workshops or Council meetings booked in for February and March.

They never told me that when I was dazzled by the glory of becoming a Lismore City Councillor! In preparation before the onslaught I have forced myself to read a few books and watch a lot of tennis (the latter to convince Trish that we are spending quality time together!).

Wishing everyone a happy and healthy 2009.



by Jenny Dowell
Mayor of Lismore

phone 6625-2206
Jenny.Dowell@lismore.nsw.gov.au

Australia Day

It was such a joy to be Mayor of Lismore at last week's Australia Day ceremony. Hundreds of our community attended this special day on which we reflect on our national journey. For me, Australia Day is a day of acknowledging our past, rejoicing in the good things of our present and looking with confidence into our future. Our Australia Day Ambassador was Craig Goozee, a man who lost his young daughter to a rare form of bone cancer 10 years ago and has since raised thousands of dollars for the Children's Cancer Institute by undertaking gruelling running, cycling and paddling ultra-marathons around and across Australia.

At our ceremony, we also recognised almost 60 wonderful and inspirational locals who, through their involvement in a variety of community organisations, are making Lismore a better place in which to live. Eleven of those nominated took out the category awards in Sporting, Art/Cultural, Environment, Multicultural, Reconciliation and Community Services. Our two overall winners for Citizen of the year were Grahame Bonamy (Senior) and Sam Stead (Junior). Graham has been a tireless volunteer and treasurer for a variety of community groups including Meals on Wheels, Lions and his local golf club. Sam is a Richmond River HS student with impressive leadership credentials both

From the mayor's desk

within his school and at the regional level as well as being a great role model for Aboriginal students.

In addition to presenting these awards, I had the great honour of presiding over the taking of the oath or affirmation for 16 applicants for Australian citizenship. This is the final stage in the citizenship process and gave the audience an opportunity to warmly welcome people from Iran, UK, Germany, Switzerland, Papua New Guinea, Italy and USA as new Aussies.

Council meeting

After the Christmas and New Year break, Council meetings resume on February 10 at 6pm. The Business Paper is not yet available, but readers who are interested to see what might be on the agenda might like to check out the Council web site one week prior to the meeting – www.lismore.nsw.gov.au Meetings are open to the public and often provide much more entertainment than the usual Tuesday night TV viewing so why not give us a go sometime this year?

One motion that will be of interest to Nimbin people is the proposal that we waive the need for a mortgage over the Nimbin Community Centre as Council's security for Section 94 contributions.

The major item expected on the agenda will be the proposed expansion of Champions Quarry at Tucki but as to other items, we'll just have to wait a little longer to see what is up for debate.

Workshops

Apart from the monthly Council meetings, councillors are usually at Chambers on other Tuesdays from 6pm to participate in workshops on a variety of matters likely to come before Council at a formal meeting at some future date. Workshops are less-formal gatherings that provide an opportunity for staff to present information and for councillors to ask questions and engage in discussion on a topic without the constraints of meeting

procedure or time limits. Again the community is welcome to attend although there is no scope for participation.

While subject to change, the proposed schedule of workshops for the coming month is:

- February 3 – Champions Quarry;
- February 4 – The new Strategic Plan;
- February 17– Community Consultation;
- February 24 – Nimbin Visitor Information Centre, Budget parameters, Section 94 plan, LEP update;
- March 3 – North Lismore Industrial Land proposed rezoning.

GSAC

Last week I had a tour of the nearly completed Goonellabah Sports and Aquatic Centre and was greatly impressed. This \$17 million facility has a 2 court sports hall, youth activity centre, gymnasium and recreational swimming pool and is sure to be a popular place not only for Goonellabah residents but those from the broader Council area and beyond. Developer contributions have been accumulating for 10 years for this facility and Council can finally deliver on a promise made a long time ago to the community's young people that we would build a pool and activity centre for them. With the help of the Federal government's recent infrastructure grants, the outdoor youth plaza will also be delivered rather than being shelved through lack of funds.

Personal

Thank you to the many *Nimbin GoodTimes* readers who enquire about my health and continue to wish me well. I am very pleased to say that I have completed chemotherapy and am starting to feel better. It will be some time before I have my hair and energy levels back completely but I know I'm well on the road to recovery. The next step is a daily hormone-blocking tablet that I will gladly take for at least five years in an effort to keep those pesky cancer cells at bay.

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Janelle's Page

from Janelle Saffin, MP

Although we are facing tough economic times, it has been encouraging to start the New Year on such a positive note, with retailers around the electorate reporting good sales figures and local tourism operators also reporting a good season.

As part of its Economic Security Strategy, the Rudd Government put more than \$50 million into the pockets of local families and pensioners in December and it seems a lot of that money has been spent locally.

Health checks

So while the local economy is off to a healthy start, this time of year is also a good time to think about personal health checks too.

The Government has announced that from February 1, women under 50 with a high risk of breast cancer, but with no symptoms, will be able to claim a Medicare rebate for an MRI breast scan.

Women at high risk are those, for example, with three or more close blood relatives diagnosed with breast or ovarian cancer.

Health Minister to Page

I am always keen to have Federal Ministers visit Page to get to know the local people and the needs of this area, so I was delighted to have the Minister for Health and Ageing, Nicola Roxon for a return visit in January. The minister attended the public consultation on the



Progress. Federal Health minister Nicola Roxon (left), Janelle Saffin and David Keeler from State Commerce Dept visited the construction site of the new cancer care unit at Lismore hospital.

GP Super clinic in Grafton, and in Lismore visited the construction site of the new Cancer Care unit and opened new student accommodation for the University department of Rural Health. The Minister spoke about the importance of the new Government programs supporting GP training in rural areas, to encourage more GPs to practice in the country.

Volunteers Grants

I was pleased to see that 45 local organisations were successful in applying for grants under the Australian Government's 2008 Volunteer Grants Program.

In Page we have tens of thousands of volunteers and these grants, from \$1,000 to \$5,000, can make a significant difference to small community

organisations, allowing our vital volunteer community to continue to give generously.

For the first time, this round of funding includes funds to cover petrol costs so volunteers aren't out of pocket for carrying out important community work.

Local recipients in this round include:

- Mary of the Angelus Association (which helps the mentally ill and disadvantaged members of the community)
- Collins Creek P and C
- Collins Creek Hall Reserve Trust
- Brain Injury Support Service
- The Organic Federation of Australia

Back to school

Remember to keep your receipts so you can claim 50 per cent of education expenses such as computers, text books and stationery under the Rudd Government's Education Tax Refund. (Details continued in Justine's column – Ed.)

Janelle

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

Parents need to keep receipts for education tax refund

from Justine Elliot, MP

I would like to take this opportunity to remind parents of school children to keep their receipts for education expenses as they prepare for the new school year.

The back-to-school period is often a really expensive one coming off the back of Christmas and the holidays, and parents should make the most of the benefits available under the Rudd Government's \$4.4 billion Education Tax Refund.

Every bit counts when you're faced with the prospect of all those expenses associated with getting the kids ready to go for the new school year.

We understand that, and it's even more the case in the midst of the global financial crisis and the downturn in the world economy.

The refunds parents can accumulate at this time of year will no doubt come in really handy come the end of the 2008-09 financial year, just six months away.

But to make the most of the refund parents in Richmond have to be organised and keep their receipts in a safe place.

The Rudd Government announced the Education Tax Refund in the last election campaign and is simply honouring its commitment to the Australian people.

It will provide parents with much-needed help for education expenses, with refunds of up to \$375 per primary school student and \$750 per secondary school student.

Eligible expenses for the Education Tax Refund include:

- laptops;
- home computers and associated costs;
- home internet connections;
- printers;
- education software;
- trade tools for use at school;
- school text books; and stationery.

Where a family has educational costs in excess of the refund limit, these costs can be carried over to the next



financial year.

Parents bringing up the next generation of Australians are doing one of the most important jobs in Australia and they deserve a helping hand.

It's also a central part of the Rudd Government's Education Revolution aimed at giving kids in Richmond, and all over Australia, the best possible start in life.

For more information go to www.educationtaxrefund.gov.au/home/

Medicare Rebate for MRI Breast Scans

A Medicare rebate for an MRI breast scan will be available to women under 50 at high risk of breast cancer and with no symptoms from 1st February 2009.

Being at high risk of breast cancer can cause significant anxiety and these scans can help reduce unnecessary concern, and help pick up breast cancer early.

The Australian Government is reducing the financial barrier of the cost of a Magnetic Resonance Imaging (MRI) scan to encourage these women in the high risk category to monitor their health. Women at high risk of breast cancer include, for example, women with three or more close blood relatives diagnosed with breast or ovarian cancer.

The new measure follows a recommendation from the Medical Services Advisory Committee that breast MRI, when combined with mammography, is a safe and

effective way to diagnose breast cancer in younger women with no symptoms at high risk of this disease. MRI uses magnetic fields to generate images that can help diagnose illnesses. It is especially effective on soft tissue - making it an important tool for working with diseases such as cancer and strokes.

The Government already supports the diagnosis of breast cancer in women with symptoms or a past history of breast cancer through Medicare funding. This covers a variety of procedures other than MRI - such as diagnostic mammography, ultrasound and guided biopsies.

Further details about the women eligible for this Medicare rebate will be available from 1st February 2009 on MBS online at www.health.gov.au.

Celebrating a milestone?

If you or a family member are celebrating a milestone 90th or 100th birthday, or a 50th or 60th wedding anniversary I am able to arrange congratulatory messages from the Prime Minister, Leader of the Opposition and in some cases the Governor General and the Queen.

Contact my office on 1300 720 675 for further details.

"Til next time,

Justine

Member for Richmond
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Garage Sale Success

by Jak Murphy

The Nimbin Environment centre has been having a successful time in the shop over the past few months. Thanks for all your support.

The garage sale – well really yard sale, since it was held in Mingle Park – was very successful, and we raised quite a few months' rent on the shop. Thank you to those who contributed goods for sale.

We found it to be so worthwhile we are going to do it again, probably in March. So once again we are looking for local support. If you are clearing out the back room or the garden shed keep us in mind. We

don't want junk. It costs us to dispose of it.

There were a few useless things donated at the last collection, which ultimately had to be taken to the dump. But if you have unwanted furniture, working white goods etc. please contact the environment centre shop. We can arrange collection. We have to be cautious with electrical items, of course.

The usual crew has been busy with a couple of projects. On-going is Mountaintop logging, Hurford's dubious activities at Warrazambil and the current big one is the please go away Repco Rally campaign (see page 3).

NIMBIN STREET SHUFFLE

by Unda Cuvva

Hemp Bar coffee bust

The undacuvva wires have been running hot with the re-opening of the Hemp Bar. Most people think it was closed because of the dreaded weed, but no, it was the coffee, always the coffee. Undacuvvas have to spend hours hanging in places like the Hemp Bar, other Well Known Tourist Attractions (WKTAs), the bank, the hardware, etc.

If you drew The Hemp Bar straw in the morning raffle you immediately bought a takeaway, even two at times. Eventually the takeaways were what got us discovered and that was the beginning of the end for The Bar.

Undacuvvas could stand it no longer and ordered the closure. That's why the Museum gets to stay open, excellent coffee, Rod, and that's why we hang there a lot as you may have noticed.

Village crop

A WKTA was apparently growing cannabis in their backyard without realising it. It's said that there was a considerable amount of money made by persons unknown (valued at the standard \$2000 per plant the crop was worth \$160,000) but no, it's not what you think. The money was made from betting on how many days until police discovered the crop. Recent rains apparently sprouted a patch of seeds that few seemed to notice; else they would have been smoked, surely, in this town. As the crop grew, day after day, so did the size of the bet, doubling daily. The loser allegedly lost his car as well as a year's savings, it took the police so long to notice.

And the mobile phone movie of a certain policeman unaware he's standing amidst the crop has been sent in to Funniest Home Videos. Talk about can't see the forest for the trees.

Undacuvva did a quick count this morning of how many cannabis plants we could spot in the planters and garden edges of just



Museum lessee, Elspeth Jones, with the new laneway fence.

Cullen Street and it was well over \$250,000 worth! Growing in our main street, right under our noses.

Makes a bit of a mockery of the whole weed thing really, and very hard for undacuvvas to keep our hearts in the job when you see something like that. The damned youth now have a photo competition happening.

Misfits fenced in

Anyway, the police have responded immediately with a new fence down Rainbow Lane. "The net is closing in on you misfits, why don't you take legal pills like everyone else," said a spokesperson who fled when asked their name.

It's believed the enclosed space known as Mingle Park is to be formally reclassified as a Voluntary Detention Centre. There was something about the police leaving the Minglers alone so long as they behave, though some will have to wear a ball and chain like in the olden days.

Should suit the Museum theme perfectly, and the bald and the stoned were very happy saying, "It might even slow the little buggers down a bit." It's believed similar plans are afoot for the camps on the edge of town for those banned from actually entering the village.

Police to join Kyogle rally?

On a more serious note, undacuvva was surprised to see unhelmeted motorcyclists tearing through the village one night last week but dismayed to see a pursuit car after them, ignoring the local police officer running out of the station buckling on her gun.

Undacuvva learned later that they had been chased all the way from Goonellabah. All survived in the end somewhere along Blue Knob Road and no harm was done to police officers.

Faeries still being bullied

The Ganja Faeries remain under attack with the theft of an un-named musical instrument out of a car while parked a stoner's throw from the police station. Undacuvva regards this with suspicion after the near running over the toes

of another faery last month by a police vehicle at another WKTA by the bridge at the edge of the village.

Cliplock dreads

The local police meanwhile have been searching informants and undercuvvas quite a bit this month which tells you a lot if you think about it. They've been pushing hard, keen to get the arrest up there in the State's Top 40.

Unfortunately of course the harder they push the deeper into the dark corners go the dealers. This week you couldn't see if it was mugwort, weed or dreadlocks you were buying, it was so hard to see under the buildings. Apart from the huge laundry bills, I can tell you, the undacuvva boss doesn't like it when you spend his money on grass clippings.

Spot the Unda

To help police and locals alike, here are five questions you can ask persons you suspect of being undercuvvas. It's important to be friendly when you ask.

1. Are you working for the police?
2. Are you wearing undapants? (Hippies never do and aren't shy of proving it.)
3. Will you join us for a cone? (Use mugwort if they say yes.)
4. Can I borrow your phone? (Police never lend their phone. Never, ever. If he or she won't lend - it's a sure sign).
5. Can I have \$2 please to get into the Museum (Locals know you don't have to pay).

Hemp Party News

by Max Stone



The Australian H*E*M*P*Party thrives in the space formerly known as the H*E*M*P*Bar, in the annex inside the H*E*M*P*Embassy.

January 2009 was a record month for both signatures on the petition and 'party' registration and not just because it was the first month of the year, fact is, more people registered in January than registered in the last quarter of 2008,

Every day, more and more

members, each prepared to tell whoever contacts them that they intend to vote for AU H*E*M*P in the senate at the next election. All of the new members told me that they love their new Head Quarters. "Funkiest political office I ever seen," remarked one.

• Mardi Grass

With less than 100 days to MardiGrass XVII, the M.O.B. meetings are happening every Friday in the space formerly known as the H*E*M*P*Bar starting at about 4.20pm.

Latest rumor: an appearance by Cheech and Chong! For real! Follow the developing story at www.nimbinmardigrass.com



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