



With three critically acclaimed albums to their name and hundreds of gigs under their belt, roots/rock duo Method are back in the saddle over the next few weeks with a string of shows across the North Coast.

Guitarist Bill Jacobi is a popular solo performer in and around The Northern Rivers, with open tuned and lap slide guitars twisting their way around songs that are both powerful and evocative. He is joined by drummer Frank Corby, who was most recently seen pounding the skins behind

legendary blues band The Bondi Cigars. Frank is also a notable songwriter in his own right, adding a rich tapestry of rhythm and texture as well as his dark vocals to the mix.

Together they make music that is an amalgamation of swamp/roots, alternative country and hillbilly funk, that somehow looks back at a wealth of musical tradition, has a poke around and then turns and runs the other way.

You can catch them at the Nimbin Hotel on Sunday 10th October, kicking off at 1.30pm.

Deckchair music hits the hills

Brisbane-based four piece, The Deckchairs, are hitting the northern hills in October as part of their 'Hello Friends' East Coast Tour. You can join them on the dance floor at the Nimbin Hotel on Saturday 23rd October or catch an afternoon of Deckchair music at Sphinx Rock Café on Sunday 24th October. Or do both - both gigs are free!

The 'Hello Friends' Tour is in support of the release of The Deckchairs' sophomore EP, *UR*, and is supported by a Contemporary Music Touring Grant from the Australian Government.

Described as "an extended collection of their favorite songs" The Deckchairs are reluctant to call the nine track CD an album per se. Front man Tim Loydell, originally from Uki, explains:

"When we went to do the album we were creating with the whole picture in mind, looking for the flow and tension just as you would with a song. *UR* is about taking the ideas that we've developed live and putting them down as a strong and varied indication of where our abilities lie.

"The exciting thing about *UR* is that we've had that complete freedom to explore and express these concepts

together and it's given rise to a really organic product that captures so much of our intent."

Formed in 2007 the group released their debut EP *Some Stranger's Ship* in 2008. The EP was received well nationally with Triple J, ABC and community radio play. Live, the band gained national momentum with a series of headline tours, slots at Big Sound, Nannup Folk Fest (WA), Coastfest (NSW) and support slots with the likes of Jeff Lang, Geoffrey Gurrumul, The Fumes, Dallas Frasca and Mama Kin.

2009 saw them focus their attention on live performance and touring. They'd soon sold over 2000 copies of *Some Stranger's Ship* and finding themselves settling into a new and distinctive prog/folk musicality, they headed back to the studio in early 2010 to start work on what would become *UR*.

Bassist Alex Mitchell elaborates: "The transition from *Some Stranger's Ship* to *UR* clearly illustrates the growth in our song writing, arranging and chemistry. I think this is especially evident on tracks like *City on Fire*. These songs evolved over a long two year period; *Hello Friends* was the first song we ever really



wrote as band."

After spending in June/July touring *UR* across West Coast Canada, The Deckchairs have wasted no time. Literally only days back in the country they set out on their 'Hello Friends' tour - taking Deckchair music from Jindabyne to Cairns with stops at Nimbin and Mt Burrell on the way.

For a pre-taste of Deckchair music visit www.myspace.com/thedekchairsmusic

Great variety in outstanding Blue Moon performances

by Pampussycat Bourne

September's Blue Moon Ball was another shining success, as locals and visitors alike dressed to the tens to enjoy a night of wonderful talent.

The night opened with Bangalow sisters Melia and Nerida Naughton, aka Scarlett Affection, whose harmonies wove a spell over the crowd. Next we were wooed by the sensational moves of Tango Motion. Eyes locked on each other, the sensuous synchronicity

was mesmerising.

Local performers The Tuntable Falls Circus took to the air, with a skilful display of balancing



manoeuvres incorporating an ariel hoop.

Frank Khouri's hip groove delivered a fresh twist to poetry, honed in hidden

coffee houses across the North Coast.

The Hussy Hicks made us laugh and made us cry as they performed with heart

and emotion. The girls, Julz Parker and Leesa Gertz, met in 2004 and found a chemistry which has taken them around Australia and the world.

Poet and compere David Hallett enlightened the crowd with his insights of the world and events, both insightful and at times with a cynical twist.

Li Pawson performed scintillating circus skills using two ropes, which he climbed, hung within, spun and twisted, then striking a poise mid air, froze... all suspended above an amazed crowd.

Dave F. Rocks tickled our funny bones with his bag of tricks and disguises,

and irreverently tackled issues as diverse as local housing, super smoking devices, and saving the whales. His imitations of federal politicians were side splitting, and included full disguises and voices.

The intermission and finale were filled with the jazz orchestral groove of The Big Band At The End Of The Universe, with vocalist Elly Hoyt, laying down swinging jazz standards.

The last Blue Moon for the year is in November, and is a cabaret show with dinner and alcohol available as usual. Tickets sell fast for these blue ribbon nights. Phone Perceptio Bookshop 6689-1766.



Nimbin Hotel & Backpackers

53 Cullen Street, Nimbin. Ph: 6689-1246

October Gigs

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

Lou Bradley
Anti-Bodies
Jay Jaxson with Guests
The Method with Bill Jacobi

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

Billy February
Cynosis
The Claymores
Pugsley Buzzard

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

Genevieve Chadwick + Mat Southern
The Medicine Show
The Deck Chairs
Khan + Tim Tonkin + Ted Cox

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

Jungal
Groove Foundation
The Bon Scotts
Good Ship

Thursday 4th Nov
Friday 5th
Saturday 6th

Jarrah Thompson with Asha Henfry
The Kelly Gang
Surf Report

Gigs start: Thurs 6pm, Fri 7.30pm, Sat 6.30pm, Sun 1.30pm

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What's On in October?

- Saturday 9th Karaoke with Tina
- Weekend 16/17th Capalabah Club visit
- Sunday 24th Pink Ribbon Day
- Social Bowls Every Sunday Sign-on 9.30am
- Free Broadband for Over 50s
- Big Raffles - Friday nights
- Banquet & Bus deals

CHINESE RESTAURANT

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- Friday Banquets
- Take-Aways

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Sphinx rock cafe

Sunday music

OCTOBER

2010

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Healing Earth (1pm)

17th Barkers Vale Brothers

24th The Deckchairs

31st Jungal

Nov 1st Vasudha & Jem

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TEL: 66797118

www.sphinxrockcafe.com

Got a hidden talent to show?

The Hidden Talent Show is an all-day event starting at 1pm and going 'til late, with involvement from Barkersvale, Cawongla Pre-School, Larnook and Rainbow Ridge schools as well as local community groups at Hanging Rock Hall, on Saturday 30th October

It will be a showcase of local, young and emerging talent. Young performers can show their talents and be rewarded with vouchers, gifts, prizes and cash. The best act will win a paid gig at the Nimbin Hotel.

Categories are flexible and will be determined by participants. We have divided the age groups into primary, high school and over 18 years.

There will be free hip hop and circus workshops and the evening will wind up with Jimmy Willing and The Real



Gone Hiccups (pictured).

Food and drink will be available for sale from community groups.

This day is about community building and participation and coming together to share and enjoy the amazing talents of our people. Please, no alcohol 'til sundown.

Donation entry. BBQ and

food. Entertainment. Music. Dance. Circus. Chai Tent. Stalls. Come along and be entertained by our youth, and experience your community. Brought to you by the Range 2 Range Futures Group and funded by Kyogle Council Register your interest if you want to be involved with frank@dreamspace.com.au or phone 6689-7597.

Leading Butoh dancer performs and leads workshop

Yumi Umiumare's electrifying show En Trance comes to Lismore for one night only!

Yumi's bold performance combines dance and digital painting produced live by her collaborating artists Banbang Nurcahyadi and Naomi Ota. En Trance is a dance theatre work creating images of intense beauty and powerful physical representations of the borderlands between the living and un-dead.

Yumi is Australia's leading performer of Butoh dance, a highly theatrical dance movement that emerged from Japan in the turbulent aftermath of the Second World War. Butoh defies simple explanation, it subverts conventional notions of dance to find challenging ways of presenting the inner life in a physical medium. Yumi is at the forefront of explorations into the potential of Butoh, including her collaboration with digital artists who create screen based visual art live along with her performance.

Yumi and her collaborator Banbang Nurcahyadi will offer a Dance and Digital Media Workshop at 10.30am on Saturday 16th October in the Dance Studio in Lismore City Hall. The first half of the workshop will be an introduction to the philosophy and physical exercises of Butoh dance. In the second half of the workshop participants will learn about motion tracking and the body as a canvas for digital art in live performance. Participants will devise



a short performance at the conclusion of the workshop. The workshop is suitable for everyone and is free with the purchase of a ticket to En Trance, or \$20.

The performance of En Trance is scheduled for Friday 15th October, 8pm at the Star Court Theatre. Tickets from NORPA box office 1300-066-772 or online at www.norpa.org.au

Lennon turns 70 – just Imagine



To help the world celebrate the anniversary of John Lennon's 70th birthday, Nimbin Aquarius Foundation is hosting a party on 9th October, from 5pm to midnight, at the Bush Theatre, Nimbin.

There will be lots of Beatles' songs by local musicians, who will encourage you to sing along. Some great films will be shown. We will all help



create a mosaic for peace, so please bring flowers, candles and tributes.

Open microphone will start from 5pm (up to 3 songs) and Bush Theatre Cafe will be open with delicious food and

drinks. Benny will phone in from New York during the evening.

So come wearing your most colourful clothes and be ready to join in the fun. Suggested donation \$5.

Big line-up Under The Tent at the Lismore Show

One of Australia's pre-eminent rock performers, Ed Kuepper (pictured) will headline a full and diverse day of music at this year's Lismore Show.

Building on the fantastic foundations set by the infamous Cock'n'Bull Tent, 2010 will see performers covering a huge range of styles and sound, playing from midday on Saturday October 23rd through to late.

Winners of the 2010 'Best Youth' Dolphin Award for their tune 'Iris', the Koi Kids are the opening act Under The Tent, together with winners of the 2010 Dolphin Album Of The Year and the new Garage/ Indie section, *The Tendons*, Sara Tindley and her *Kingfishers* and the North Coast's hardest working country rock band *The Re-Mains*.

ARIA Award nominated Holly Throsby has garnered glowing reviews from music press across the globe and with her band will present songs that have been described as "poetic distillations with an elusive profundity" (Mojo, UK), "elegantly structured, delightfully lyrical and musically understated" (Sunday Times, UK) and "Tender, evocative, gently inquisitive" (Sun Herald).

It is a rare treat to see such a respected international performer, make sure you do!



Kim Salmon and Ron Peno are two men so respected in Australian music, thanks to their stints in so many classic left-of-centre groups, that their coming together a few years ago left many wondering why it didn't happen earlier.

Salmon's avant garde guitar shenanigans and Penos plaintive vocal style have both been stripped back, to create a show that the Sydney Morning

Herald describes as "a deeply spiritual and sometimes surreal experience."

Rounding out a day of amazing music is the enigmatic Ed Kuepper, a man who is simultaneously a Saint, A Bad Seed and A Laughing Clown. Ed has a profound and diverse back catalogue but is always looking to the future.

It is impossible to say exactly what he will offer up in Lismore, but you can be assured it will be the kind of show that folks will talk about in hushed tones for many, many months to come. Make sure you are there.

The music *Under The Tent* at the Lismore Show is free once you have gained admission to the North Coast National. Tickets available at www.norpa.org.au at Newcastle Permanent branches or at the gate and start from \$8. Early bird tickets available until October 15.

Nouveaux Singers Gig

"The Rites of Spring", contains 22 songs about Spring and Love.

It's on Sunday 17th October at 4pm, at St. Mark's Anglican Church (beside the Community Garden) and tickets are: \$10, \$5 concession, children free.

Chris Harris (Coffee House) sings tenor and bass in the choir, the accompanist will be Gerard Lynam, also a Nimbin local, and the conductor is ex-Nimbinite Bruce McNicol. Get there early!



The Nouveaux Singers
presents
"The Rites of Spring"
22 Songs about Spring & Love
Sunday 17th October at 4pm
St Marks Anglican Church Nimbin
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Assisted by the Northern Rivers
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Byronification

On reading about the heavy-handed police in your *Nimbin GoodTimes*, I would like to give my point of view as a visitor to the area for the past 26 years.

The same thing happened to Byron when it got taken over by the money people. I personally know a friend who was pushed out of Byron because he didn't fit into the newcoming image. I first stayed in Byron when you would be lucky to pass 20 people walking from Clarke's Beach to the shopping centre.

Nimbin is about to go through that same sort of transition, the land and countryside is very inviting to many, it feels good as you all well know.

I visit Nimbin often, I like the area, the feel, and a smoke, but it's been my experience of late to score some really low-grade weed. It seems one has to be in the local know to get anything good. Imagine all those good tourists getting ripped off, as I have been. The good people of Nimbin have allowed this to happen.

Walking through your town does not reflect the tour brochures the town puts out. It's a stretch of the imagination to see through the ugliness which permeates out from the town centre, Nimbin 'so-called' museum.

For a town so small to have so many CCTV cameras says there is a real problem. The good people of the area know there is a concentration of a bad element in Nimbin town and have allowed it. Why? Fear perhaps. Fear of change?

Nimbinites still have time (not much) to clean up their act and become the town that was once a dream. Do nothing now and your greatest fear will manifest.

Political Nepotism

It might sometimes be the case that a husband, wife or friend of a politician in this state is suitably qualified to be appointed to the top levels of public administration. It's just that it happens so often that you have to wonder.

Lately, barely a week goes by without another appointment of somebody's friend as a Deputy Director General of some state government department, usually at a salary in excess of \$300,000 per annum.

Should we be concerned?

There is something in the Australian ethos that is fairly disregarding, dismissive even, of bureaucracy. The important thing to remember though, is that great hospitals, schools, public transport and roads can only be provided to the community if we have a strong functional public service.

If the top levels of administration are dysfunctional and staff selection corrupted, I don't think we can be optimistic about the future quality of services in this state.

Robert Stock
Katoomba

Personally I would not like to see that happen.

People of Nimbin have no time to be complacent. Your new (unwanted) bridge is just the beginning. There are forces as work to make Nimbin the next Byron. Is that what you want?

Kym Vesuvium
Byron Bay

Pro-rally

I am writing in respect to your opposition of Rally Australia being held on the North Coast. I have lived in Nimbin for my entire life, I grew up and continue to live here.

I have a real problem with the lack of acceptance shown by the local community in relation to Rally Australia, I was disgusted to be from here after the stunts thrown by so called "locals". For a bunch of people wanting acceptance of their own beliefs, a huge lack of the same has been offered to others.

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

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

Next deadline:
Wednesday 27th October

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

Please limit contributions to 600 words or less.

New home wanted



Six year old Blue Heeler / Border Collie cross looking for a new home. Good health, obedient and lovely nature. Phone 6689-0311.

Nimbin was made to look like a village filled with idiots and I felt obliged to lie about where I lived whilst working at the Rally.

How many opportunities exist for the youth of this region? Not many, the Rally was one of the most exciting and interesting things I have done in my life and I am a Nimbin local.

What carbon footprint does Mardi Grass have? I must ask, nobody seems to care about that, selective environmentalists hey?

Shame on you Nimbin.

Adam Jeffreys
Nimbin

Speed on Tweed next to go?

So the controversial world rally is going to take place in the Coffs Harbour area in 2011. Well that's a good thing.

It would have been even better if our new 'green' mayor had not used his casting vote on Friday to vote for the rally's return to the Tweed. And it would have been even better still for Tweed's 'green' mayor not to have welcomed the world rally back if Coffs kicks it out. (Well there are, I believe, a few greenies and national parks in the area.)

Now we hear that the future of Murwillumbah's Speed on Tweed event is in doubt, after a decision to move the World Rally Championships to Coffs Harbour.

Why should this be so?

The reason given is that last year the financially embattled car festival was saved by the rally group, and now its survival will depend on community support. It may well have been saved by the rally group, but with local ratepayers' money.

Now here's a radical idea. What if the the council uses the \$120,000 of ratepayers money ear-marked for each rally event to keep the Speed on Tweed going?

Personally, I don't care whether the Speed on Tweed survives, but it is rather quaint and does actually bring money to the area, so why not keep it going?

And it thrived on community support before the rally hit town, so, again, why not keep it going?

Chris Degenhardt
(relieved Tweed Shire resident)

Appreciation

A note of thanks for Graham Irvine's recent article, "Print media perceptions of Nimbin" (NGT Sept 10).

I never cease to be amazed at the sustained quality of The Nimbin GoodTimes, issue after issue. It puts many of the commercial rags out there, ostensibly "serving" larger communities, to shame.

But I guess that only supports Graham's thesis, doesn't it?

Adrian Ryan,
Stoney Chute

Notices

Positions Vacant

Market Manager

The Channon Craft Market Inc. seeks a Market Manager. Are you dynamic, energetic and passionate, and able to take this original community market into the future? This is a casual position – people and computer skills are essential. For information package, visit www.thechannonmarket.org.au Closing date is 18th October.

Market Co-Ordinator

The Nimbin Markets operates as an enterprise of Nimbin Community Centre. Expressions of Interest (EOI) are currently being sought from individuals or community groups wishing to take this opportunity to Co-ordinate the monthly Markets. Deadline for receiving EOIs is 20th October. Your EOI should address your ability to co-ordinate the Markets and any previous experience you may have which will add weight to your application. For further information please contact Nicola on 6689-0000 or ncci@nimbincommunity.org.au

Office Space To Let

Nimbin Community Centre has several office spaces available to let in the near future. Our priority is to provide tenancy to community organisations and services operating in Nimbin. For more details and to organise an appointment please contact ncci@nimbincommunity.org.au or 6689-0000.

CTC service availability

Until new premises become available, Nimbin CTC is open for internet and printing services Wednesdays and Thursdays between 10am and 4pm. For other times please phone 6689-1183. The Nimbin CTC management committee thanks you for your patience and support during this difficult transitional period.

Annual General Meetings

• **The Channon Craft Market Inc** AGM will be held on 12th October at 7pm at The Channon Children's Centre, 18 Mill Street, The Channon. All positions will be declared vacant at the meeting. For more information, phone Christine McFadden on 6689-1158.

• **Nimbin Community Centre Inc.** AGM is sheduled for 6pm, Thursday 28th November at the Dance Studio, Nimbin Community Centre. Nibbles provided. Annual membership payable at door.

Women's Dinner

The Nimbin Women's Dinner will be held on Wednesday 17th November, with Aussie blues mama Lil' Fi heading a bill of star women performers. Gail Clarke and Megan James lead a team of passionate women to ensure this great event survives as a benefit this year for the Nimbin World Poetry Cup.

Nimbin Markets

17th & 31st October. Stallholders contact 0428-506-000 or markets@nimbincommunity.org.au

About us

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Distribution: Angus, Sue, Coralie, Ben, Hilary, Gabrielle & Warren (Bellingen), Dave (West End), Matt (Glebe).

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Simon says...

by Simon Clough
Lismore Deputy Mayor



I have just seen the plans for the Nimbin Skate Park and they are very exciting especially the “big snake”.

The Development Application (D.A.) will come up for consideration at Council’s 12th November meeting. I believe that there will be unanimous support from Councillors. In fact I think everyone will be very happy that it’s about to become a reality. It’s been quite an arduous process for Council and the community to get this far, and it will be exciting to see the Skate Park become a reality.

Also of interest to the Nimbin community may be the motion I’m putting to Council that it investigates changing the name of the Lismore airport to “The Lismore Nimbin airport”. Nimbin should get more recognition as the second most visited tourist attraction in regional NSW.

It seems a win-win proposal to me. Lismore could get the tourism benefit of more people using the airport to access Nimbin, in preference to people flying to Ballina and staying in Byron. It also supports our regional airline. It’ll be interesting to see if the motion gets supported at the next Council meeting.

In a pleasing endorsement for the pursuit of environmental and community sustainability in local government, both Cr Patrick Morrissey in Byron Shire and myself in Lismore were recently elected Deputy Mayors of our respective Councils. Patrick and I are members of “Our Sustainable Future Party” (OSF), which is a local government micro party.

OSF was established to work on all aspects of sustainability from climate change to food security and

“relocalising” the economy. Our positions as Deputy Mayors are for 12 months, and we thank our respective Councillors for their confidence in us.

A thorough review of the Council’s Infrastructure Services section is about to be undertaken by a team of consultants. This is the fruition of a motion I put to Council nearly 12 months ago. The consultants will be examining all aspects of Council’s water, sewerage, fleet and of course roads.

The consultants have over 80 years’ experience in all aspects of local government infrastructure. I’m hopeful that we will get some definitive results that will see major improvements in infrastructure and cost-efficiency over the next few years.

I believe this review is essential, with increasing community needs and little increase in available funding to meet these needs.

Hard to believe that the spring equinox has passed and that we are into daylight saving again! You might guess I’m not a fan of DST (not because of the curtains fading), simply because I’m a morning person and I love those long uninterrupted mornings from 4am when I feel like I have the world to myself.

I have never seen so many stunned footballers and spectators as there were at the AFL grand final – a draw! As some smartie observed on Twitter, that if Australia were to toss a coin at the moment it would definitely land on its edge.

Enjoy a wonderful spring. And don’t forget you can contact me at simonclough@internode.on.net or on 6624-2894 or mobile 0428-886-217.

From the Mayor’s desk

by Jenny Dowell
Mayor of Lismore

Jenny.Dowell@lismore.nsw.gov.au

Deputy Mayor

At every September Council meeting, an election is held for the position of Deputy Mayor. In this Council term, the role is being rotated among Councillors and I am pleased that a fellow NGT contributor, Cr Simon Clough is the new Deputy Mayor.

Cr Clough’s first duty was to Chair the debate on a development application and land acquisition process for a block of land on Rous Rd, Goonellabah. I have good friends who live beside this block so, as is proper, I declared a conflict of interest and left the Chamber in Cr Clough’s capable hands.

Outdoor Dining

After a very thorough consultation process, Council endorsed a new policy that encourages outdoor dining on our CBD footpaths and extends the possible closing time until midnight.

The two-year fee-free leasing of outdoor space is designed to enliven the CBD after hours and despite some concerns from local Police, the concept has been embraced by local café owners.

The Policy only applies to the Lismore CBD and not to Nimbin.

Smokefree Outdoor Areas

The same consultation process as used for the Outdoor Dining Policy will be used to develop a new policy on Smoke Free Outdoor Areas.

Representatives from key interest groups will come together in a World Café format to discuss smoke free sporting areas, the CBD and at events sponsored by council. A draft policy, developed following that early consultation, will come back

to Council and then go on exhibition for the broader community to have its voices heard.

Following that period, the Policy will come back to Council to be formally adopted.

Lismore Levee

NGT readers may be aware that a section of the Lismore CBD flood levee behind the Newtrain building in Club lane is subsiding. This section of the Wilson River bears the force of the waters coming in from Leicester Creek.

The solution is for Council to purchase the heritage building, remove a later addition at the rear and relocate the levee wall.

Council has allocated \$600,000 towards the cost of these works, with \$400,000 of that amount coming from grants.

LEP

After Council’s Local Environmental Plan (LEP) was on four months public exhibition, staff are now considering about 1400 submissions received. I have received 200 copies of submissions from 112 separate rural properties, almost ½ are generic form letters and not property specific.

It is unfortunate that many writers believe that the LEP will require landowners to fence off creeks or that a farmer cannot change from cattle to cropping without seeking permission. This is simply untrue and the scaremongering of those spreading misinformation is unfortunate.

Several submissions relate to urban localities in South and North Lismore and Goonellabah or are from groups such as Landcare and the Rural Fire Service. Several writers have made very detailed submissions highlighting areas in which the LEP can be corrected and improved.

I greatly appreciate the time and effort taken and assure readers that Council is committed to making the LEP as good as it can be.

IS Review

Complete Urban won the tender to review Council’s Infrastructure Services operations. CU’s three principals have extensive experience in road construction and maintenance, the major section under review.

Council knows from our Special Rate Variation consultation that many community members question Council’s ability to fix our roads. This review will examine current practices and will make recommendations relating to roads, quarries, parks and works depots.

The final report is due by the end of the year.

Nimbin Show

Council again had a prominent presence at Nimbin Show. The good crowds and sunshine added to the atmosphere and the display of produce, cookery, handcraft and art works was wonderful.

I had the pleasure of talking to students from Macksville High School who had a great time and were taking home several sashes for their cattle.

Coming Up: Nimbin Skatepark

At the October 12 Council



Portrait by Ildiko Hammond

meeting, the final plans for the new Nimbin Skatepark will be endorsed. This will be a great day for the young people of Nimbin and will be closely followed by the start of work on the Peace Park site.

I’d encourage some of Nimbin’s skateboarders to come to the meeting and witness this important milestone.

Coffee Camp PS Centenary

I’m looking forward to catching up with past and present students at the Centenary of Coffee Camp Public School in late October. Our rural schools have a proud history of being the heart of the community so I expect to hear lots of reminiscences and happy reunions.

Community Forum

Although it is more than a month away, I encourage Nimbin residents to put November 15 on the calendar for the annual Nimbin Community Forum.

All the Councillors and Senior Staff will be in attendance at 7pm in the School of Arts to engage with you on issues relating to your village.

FOR APPOINTMENTS
Tel 6689 1000



Aboriginal Support Worker

(Section 14D of the Anti-Discrimination Act 1977)

Part time position, hours to be negotiated
SACS Award applies (relevant to experience)

Purpose of Position: The Aboriginal Support Worker will work as part of the Nimbin Aged Care and Respite Services (NACRS) team and with the support of the Nimbin Health & Welfare Assoc. Inc (NH&W) management committee to continue the work of developing and supporting the delivery of services to older aboriginal people, people with disabilities and their carers in the Nimbin area.

Closing date Monday 18th October

For information package including selection criteria
phone Rose 6689-1709

Nimbin Health & Welfare Association Inc auspicing Nimbin Aged Care and Respite Services

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Janelle's Page



Janelle with this year's winner of the WetlandCare Australia Art Prize, Anna Jackowiak-Hoare.

by Janelle Saffin, MP

Firstly, thank you to the people of Page for re-electing me as your Federal representative.

I'd particularly like to thank all those who offered their support in the campaign, who gave me their public endorsement, and the hundreds of people who volunteered their time and energy to getting me re-elected.

After election night, it was a long 17 days wait before we knew who would govern, and I welcome the new minority Government led by Prime Minister Julia Gillard.

As you know, I have always been one to push for a better share of resources for our region, and it is great that the Independent MPs were able to use the hung parliament to put regional Australia front and centre.

The \$10 billion package of reforms announced for Regional Australia includes extra funding for health, education, community infrastructure and broadband.

I will be putting my hand up to snare extra funding for our local priorities.

Parliamentary reforms

I was excited about the parliamentary reform deal the Independents negotiated with the major parties before we knew who would get to form Government.

Australians are saying they want a more participatory style of democracy and when the reforms were announced it seemed we were about to get it. But that was before Opposition leader Tony Abbott reneged on the agreement to pair the speaker.

People in the electorate have let me know they are unimpressed with Mr Abbott's destructive approach to Parliament and I agree.

Prime Minister Julia Gillard said she wants this to be a time where we are focussed on securing the future of our country for all Australians. Interesting times ahead.

Climate Change roundtables

I welcome the Gillard Government's announcement of two roundtables to engage business, community and non-government organisations on its climate

change policies.

The roundtables will be a good way to bring the broader community into discussions on the introduction of a carbon price and other climate change measures.

The Gillard Government has a clear vision for a transition to a sustainable low-pollution economy that improves living standards while preserving the environment and bringing our communities together.

If we are to remain internationally competitive over the long term, our industries must become less carbon intensive and the best way of doing this is by establishing a carbon price in the economy.

The roundtables will help inform the positions that the Government takes to the new Multi-Party Climate Change Committee and I have written to the Minister for Climate Change and Energy Efficiency, Greg Combet asking that he consider regional representation on the roundtables from the Page electorate.

Wetland art competition

WetlandCare Australia has launched its 2011 National Art and Photography Competition and this year's theme is Forested Wetlands: their importance and wise use.

The competition is a wonderful way of raising awareness about protecting our natural environment, and the 2010 competition attracted more than 650 entries from around Australia.

In February this year, I attended the award presentation in Canberra and was delighted to see so many prize winners from the Northern Rivers region, with Anna Jackowiak-Hoare from Bonalbo winning the Open Art Prize.

Information and entry forms are available at www.wetlandcare.com.au

Nimbin Show



Clockwise from above: Champion Dexters, Tuntable Circus, Parade, inspecting the goat, Fairies Zara and Dane, Boys and Alpacas.



Clockwise from above: Ray Newton with his champion chook; Damien Devlin's Shearing demo; Sallie and Lavina with Reserve Champion heavy horse Jack; Brock Everingham showjumping; Dog and ducks.



Weave and Mend Festival



Numbers were down at this year's 5-day Weave and Mend festival with the iffy weather, but it was small and cozy.

Organiser Granny Breath Weaver said, "There was a good mob of women who really wanted to get into it."

With lots of music, many bags and baskets made, and the storms holding off until the last things were packed up, the annual event was judged a great success by all who attended.

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Exhibits sought for Renewable Energy Museum

Nimbin's Rainbow Power Company is looking for renewable energy antiques (more than 20 years old) to display to the public.

Old examples of solar panels, wind and hydro generators, regulators, inverters, stirling and steam engines etc do not have to be in working condition but should look in good condition.

Phone Dave Lambert at RPC on 6689-1430 for more information.



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Protest manifesto



Text of the letter delivered to the Nimbin Police Station from the citizens and shopkeepers of the Village of Nimbin to the NSW Police force on 11th September:

Nimbin is not a war zone! Nimbin is not in Afghanistan! We are not violent. We are not criminals.

Our village is renowned the world over as a centre of tolerance and good vibes. Nimbin is a beautiful township filled with beautiful people who abhor violence and want nothing more than to be able to live in peace with each other and in harmony with our natural environment.

For nearly forty years Nimbin has been a focus for a peaceful trade in cannabis between serene and non-violent citizens. This trade in cannabis has always been non-violent, peaceful, and ethically sound. We do not find this trade in cannabis to be dangerous.

We do not find the trade in cannabis to be something that needs to be policed by packs of heavily armed troopers clad in bullet proof vests and carrying handguns and tasers. The citizens of the village of Nimbin are not demeaned or lessened by the cannabis trade: but we are demeaned and lessened when we are treated like criminals.

The citizens of the village of Nimbin believe the single most dangerous thing about the cannabis trade in our township are the heavy handed tactics being employed by the NSW police force.

We gather today in front of your stationhouse to ask: Why have the NSW Police force declared war on our township?

Why is our main street festooned with spy cameras? Why do packs of heavily armed policemen roam our streets? Why do you import bulletproof vests and taser guns onto the streets of our peaceful village? Why do you issue illegal (general) warrants up to three times a week to search our whole township with sniffer dogs?

We believe that the current policing practices in Nimbin have nothing to do with 'keeping the peace'. We know that the nine police stationed in Nimbin are not in the township because the local citizens invited them here. We did not invite this huge police presence into our town. The police are here at the bidding of people who live in Sydney and Canberra. The police in Nimbin have come here as an occupying force at the behest of outsiders!

Most importantly, the police are often not here or available for important moments when they are truly needed to protect the safety of the village, as ninety percent of their time is occupied in pursuit of the endless and unwinnable war on drugs. What have we done to deserve to have our beautiful and peaceful township occupied by a heavily armed force of troopers wearing bulletproof vests? Why have you set up spy cameras on every corner of our village?

Surely you are not doing it to keep us safe. After all: how many violent offenders have been arrested in the village lately? How many violent crimes have been committed in Nimbin in the last week? The last month? Are there any more than in any small country town in NSW?

We gather today on the 11th of September in front of your station house to symbolically trade cannabis and demonstrate that this is not a dangerous practice. We are here to take our township back. We are gathering as one to demonstrate that we see you as a disruptive force not a police force.

We have come together to jointly declare that you are not acting on behalf of the citizens of Nimbin; we utterly reject any notion that you are acting in our interests.

The huge occupying police force is stationed here in Nimbin for **political** reasons. Your presence has nothing to do with keeping the peace. Your occupying police force is in Nimbin to make sure that the people of Nimbin are forced to live in a way that politicians, who live a long way away from Nimbin, find acceptable.

We have gathered to inform you that the citizens of Nimbin will be lodging a formal protest with the NSW Council of Civil Liberties and the Police Ombudsman to ask that the Government stop harassing the citizens of Nimbin.

We are gathered in front of your stationhouse to ask you to take your tasers and bulletproof vests and go away! You are throttling the business life of our town. You are scaring and terrorizing peaceful citizens. You are importing violence and bully-boy tactics into a peaceful corner of rural NSW.

We are here to ask you to pack up your bulletproof vests and weaponry and STOP THE WAR ON NIMBIN.

Peace for pot, pot for peace.
www.hempembassy.net

NIMBIN STREET SHUFFLE

Journal of the North Coast's longest serving covert

by Undacuvva

Finally Undastanding

I've been working the Byron buses for a while now while the local ADHD loon, the laidback sarge, and the doggieboy try and clean up my most favourite little village in the world. Last time I looked there was a football team of apprentice dealers hanging out thriving on the adrenaline of real life 'cops and robbers', so the war clearly ain't over yet.

I had to go back on the buses because the alcohol was killing me on the streets. To blend in now I was drinking so much I couldn't stay in role. Anyway the buses are an old unda favourite. Scoring with the Swedish girls, the dealers never even notice me.

Less than a week ago I was hanging out with some French backpackers and we caught the Nimbin bus for the day trip and I never gave it a second thought when a pretty girl handed out cookies soon after we drove off. Someone started talking about mushrooms and I still didn't twig. Then the birthing waves started rolling over me and when we stepped out of the bus at the waterfall, the jungle was alive. Everything was alive.

No one spoke. The French are so beautiful. Everything was so beautiful.

We pulled up in Nimbin with the Simpsons clouds hovering over the hills on a perfect day. Was the whole village on goldtops? I really thought so for a while as the colourful friendly goodvibes filled the air in the land of stressfree. Love was in the air. It was unmistakable, yet impossible to pin. I forgot who I was and what I was supposed to be doing. Besides, who needs weed now?

Chilling on the street with the young travellers from across the globe, this was paradise, as good as it gets. And I saw the point. Enjoyment. Joy. Simple joy. If you don't feel good you can't enjoy and if you can't enjoy there is no point! And here was a little radical tribe just trying to feel good and they had discovered some of the magic plants in nature to help make it happen. As humans have forever.

It all seemed so simple, so clear, for a moment. The Truth. The Truth is Joy. But no sooner did I see it than it started rippling



apart. Someone called "Taxi" and it was as if a boulder was cast into the millpond.

Suddenly I remembered who I was and the times I've called "Taxi" just to see who was carrying weed. The cops have forever enjoyed false alarms. All legal for us of course! "The cops are on the way". Then back to the bar for another beer, job done.

Then I saw them for real. Boots and belts, guns, uniforms, cutting a swathe through the footpath. Creatures from another planet, here to spoil the fun. Killjoys.

The Sacred Goldies had done their job. It was a life-changing moment. The front uniform caught my eye, as we do. He knew instantly something was wrong. Confusion glazed him even more, but the training stood tall as he walked straight past, and I realized I'd crossed over. I can't do unda anymore. Time to follow the words and path the Dalai has been nudging me towards. Be true to myself and no longer betray the spirit of the sacred mind-expanding plants the killjoys are out to destroy. If only they undastood.

No more talking to the Copshrink about my blurring realities and loyalties. Time to take the massive compo package from the Undabably Account which should be enough to buy half of Cullen Street, as well as the farm to grow my own.



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