

Byron All Shorts

New film competition calls for entries

In association with Flickerfest International Short Film Festival, iQ Arts & Eco Centre is currently calling for entries for the inaugural 'Byron All Shorts' competition 2009.

The 'Byron All Shorts' competition will celebrate the filmmaking talent in the Northern Rivers region and encourage audiences to experience the many local stories that are produced in the region each year.



This competitive local programme will screen over the Australia Day long weekend, 23rd to 25th January 2009, as part of the Byron Flickerfest three-day screenings of the best of the world's short films.

Films may originate from any format, but must be entered on DVD, and be no more than 30 mins in length. Entries close 5pm, 31st December.

Two prizes will be awarded as part of the competition, the BAS Directors Award selected by Flickerfest International Short Film Festival Director, Bronwyn Kidd (who will be present to introduce the screenings); and the BAS Audience Award, voted by those in attendance.

All genres are acceptable for this competition, and films are to be completed within two years of the close of entries from residents of Northern Rivers. The Byron All Shorts screening will be on Saturday afternoon at 5pm with announcement of the winners at the Sunday night Flickerfest screening.

Entry is \$10 and more info and entry forms can be found at www.iQ.org.au



Gearing up for Woodford

This year's Woodford Folk Festival will present a resplendent program of 580 acts and 2600 performers.

Festival Director and futurist, Bill Hauritz says, "It's our most ambitious programme in our 23 year history."

Woodford Folk Festival has become known as an incubator of fresh talent and it's not just musicians who are nurtured at Woodford, there are platforms for visual artists, comedians, circus, vaudeville, healers, environmental leaders and for patrons through workshops, forums, volunteering and performance involvement.

This year's highlights include festival favourites such as Lior, John Williamson, Dya Singh, Doch, Katie Noonan, Ash Grunwald, Katie Noonan, Josh Pyke, That 1 Guy, Kristina Olsen, Waiting For Guinness, Backsliders, The Bird, Jeff Lang, Martin Pearson, Wild Marmalade, Ernie Dingo, The Herd, Miguel, Leah Cotterell, Mr Percival, Bluegrass Parkway, Mic Conway's National Junk Band, the Amazing Drumming Monkeys, and Oka.

From overseas come KoPAS to perform their magic on the lake, Asim Gorashi from Sudan, Baatarsukh Batsukh from Mongolia, singer Grace Barbe and afro-funk band from the Seychelles, Dougie MacLean and the band Frightened Rabbit, both from Scotland.

The festival runs from Thursday 27th December through until late on Monday 1st January.

Programmes and tickets are available on the Woodford Folk Festival website or call the Queensland Folk Federation on 07 5496-1066.

Have a good time for a good cause

A superb smorgasbord of singers, songwriters and instrumental music, and maybe some dancing is lined up for another fabulous concert at Blue Knob Hall Gallery, Lillian Rock on Sunday 7th December at 7.30pm, for \$15 including supper.

This is a fundraiser for Chris's daughter Lucy Palmer's work with disadvantaged kids in Latin America. Lucy and partner Emilio (pictured in the poster) have for some years been working in Guatemala, Nicaragua and, more recently, Bolivia. They have a registered charity GUIA (Spanish for Guide), that aims to improve the lives of disadvantaged children and youth of Latin America by supporting small-scale educational, recreational and employment projects.



Ted Fest A Huge Success



by Tim Tonkin

There was no doubt that people were going to turn up to the Tuntable Hall to support Ted Cox and his family with his brave fight against leukemia.

But no-one expected to raise well over \$14,500, that's \$11,000 on the day and the rest from raffles and cash donations.

The skies cleared to give us a beautiful day with well over 300-400 family and friends who showed up with smiling faces and generous hearts.

Bubbles filled the hall to the delight of many children, dancing and smiling; show bags, face painting, fabulous food, baby goats and even an ice cream van added to the carnival atmosphere.

Archie did a fabulous job as the

auctioneer for the day, razzing the crowd and getting them to dig deep. There were many things that had been kindly donated by businesses in Nimbin, artists, sculptors, music shops, the pub, and our very own Nimbin Headers Soccer Club, thanks Nigel.

A lot of love and music filled the air, and there was something for everyone with many musos giving up their time to come together to play and to be involved in a fantastic show.

A diverse mix of music was heard throughout the day and into the night – everything from folk, punk, jazz, latin and some classic rock'n'roll.

As night fell the hall filled up with dancers, floaters, breathers, rockers, data projections, and a fantastic laser light show that went right off.

Ted made his way onto the stage

giving us a stand-out acoustic and rock performance with his band The Henchmen. What an amazing spirit this man has, however once he was up on stage it was hard for me to say, "Time's up, bro."

A big thanks to Ted's good friend and band mate Jed from Hot Dog who really pulled all of us together to make this all happen, a true team effort.

And too, all the amazing people who donated their time and energy in preparing food for the day, door people, everybody out there who put in, you know who you are.

And of course to all the performers, donators from Casino to Lismore, and to our wonderful community.

Ted's mum, Gloria would also like to thank everyone, especially the organisers, for their support.

Rock on Nimbin.

Nimbin Hotel & Backpackers

53 Cullen Street, Nimbin
Phone 6689-1246

December Gig Guide

Friday 5th	The Hoochers
Friday 12th	Fatter Than Nusrat
Friday 19th	De Karpo
Sunday 21st	Glory B 1.30pm
Friday 26th	CBD Dub Project

– Friday gigs start 7.30pm –

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What's On in December?

- Sunday 7th – AntiBodies 1-4pm.**
Get Rockin' with the Stars of Ted-Fest
- Sunday 14th – Kids Christmas Party Noon**
BBQ lunch and games. Santa arrives at 1.30pm.
- Wednesday 31st – New Year's Eve 7pm.**
Twilight bowls, karaoke and \$20 seafood buffet

Xmas Cheer

at Your Bowlo

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

ASIAN STAR Restaurant

- Lunch & dinner Tuesday - Sunday

Sphinx Rock Cafe

SUNDAY 9.15pm

1-5pm

December:

- 7th Faye Blais & Mr Bardley, + Jarrah
- 14th Andi and George Band
- 21st Jessie James & Outlaws
- 28th Jed Rowe Band
- Jan 4th Loren Kate + Bill Jacobi

Percussion Jam from 5pm every Sunday on the lawn

New Summer Menu

Ph. 66797-118

Kyogle Rd MT. BURRELL. www.sphinxrockcafe.com

Hurfords Forests

If you read the Jacaranda issue of *GoodTimes* you may have seen a small article that I submitted on behalf of the Nimbin Environment Centre. I would like to take the opportunity to apologise for parts of that article.

I wrote the piece in what I intended to be a tone of subtle irony. Sadly my writing skills are not what I thought, and the irony was so subtle as to be non-existent. The editors chose to extract a

small part of the article and use it as the headline, giving the (false) impression that the Environment Centre supports the work being done by and on behalf of Hurford's Forests at Warrazambil Creek. This is definitely not the case.

I want to state quite clearly that neither myself, or the volunteers and the management committee of the Nimbin Environment Centre support or approve of the work Hurfords are doing at Warrazambil Creek.

The new plantations are not a forest, they are a monoculture plantation for future harvest and profit. The elaborate fencing inhibits the passage of native wildlife (wallabies etc.) across their natural habitat. The carved fenceposts and the gate hanging from them definitely give the impression, deliberately or otherwise, that road users are entering private property.

This road may not get much visitor traffic but nevertheless it is a public road to provide access to the mountain and remaining forests and it would be wrong to block this free access.

Perhaps Hurfords might care to correct this anomaly by putting a sign on the gate advising that it is a public access road.

Once again I offer my apologies for any offence I inadvertently caused to the Environment Centre volunteers and our supporters.

**Jak Murphy, President,
Environment Centre
management committee**

Reactionary Brainfart?

A few rumbles running through my 60 year old enlarged braingut, and an ageing hippy grumble about New Agey Colonic Irrigation Opportunities recently



promoted on a 2NIM-FM 'news' podcast. Of course it wasn't an 'advertorial' (goddess forbid!), but it is a signifier of how far we have moved on from our origins (or have we?).

It is extraordinary that economic opportunism has attained levels whereby outlying communities might think of having naturopathic 'nurses' bussed in to personally apply 'colonic irrigation'. No mention of how much it might cost of course. Especially when it can be done for free. I have been able to 'irrigate' myself since the age of fourteen, when I came across a simple yoga handbook. It is pretty easy to suck liquid up into your arse with a simple stomach exercise - hyperventilate, breathe out, hold your breath, shut your throat, and try to breathe. Your stomach sucks in. You can do belly dance stuff, even rotate your stomach muscles with a bit of practice, and by willing relaxation of your sphincter, draw fluids up into your bowel. Not so easy when you are 60 something, but after a few days practice you can still do it, and it's free.

Now why hippy communities would pay money to have a visiting pair of Byronic nurses to do this to you manually, for an unguessed at amount of money, is beyond me. Especially in days of economic recession, climate change and a need to reduce fuel consumption. Let's think ahead and beyond the financially motivated false values and opportunism of those who want to inscribe (or 'insert') their capitalist, and 'market oriented' fetishes into the tender flesh of genuinely alternative movements and lifestyles. I would rather see

About us

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state financed library vans and community health experts visiting outlying communities than this sort of New Age opportunistic nonsense. Please Nim-FM Neeyoozzzzz (Newzzz) - no more advertorial nonsense!

Warwick Fry

Fashion Split

The fashion community of Nimbin is deeply concerned about news of the dissolution of the partneship between this year's Fashion Show co-co-ordinators, Christina Chester and Judy Who.

The Nimbin Fashion Show is a community event. Judy Who is a part of the original famous show with all the other great designers including Jil Jones, Bobbin and Poppy and Sue and lots more over 20 years, and made it succesful as a community event.

Jaz and Judy had a great positive influence on the show with new exciting designers and model training with Jaz. She did a great job and worked really hard and Judy with her experience over 30 years of organising fashion shows was a real asset.

Judy is starting a creative workshop in Nimbin, teaching how to make clothing simply and from this workshop, which will create new designers.

Perhaps in the future there will be two Nimbin Fashion Shows, one with Christina Chester and one with Haute Couture with Judy Who.

Joachims Steiner

The future of clothes in Nimbin

It's not the men's fault, brought up through school to debt, to work a job for the expanding world of nuclear

Website: David McMinn
www.nimbingoodtimes.com
NGT is auspiced by the Nimbin Community School Co-operative Ltd.
Next deadline: Wednesday 31st December
Email: nimbin.goodtimes@gmail.com or put stuff in the pigeonhole at the Nimbin Community Centre. Please limit contributions to 600 words or less, including photo.

Post-materialism

If you dig a little past the surface, you'll see that this financial meltdown is not about liquidity, toxic derivatives or unregulated markets, it's really about culture. It's our culture of excess and meaningless consumption — the glorified spending and borrowing of the past decade that's at the root of the crisis we now find ourselves in. The myth of consumer happiness.

Economic meltdown, together with the ecological crisis of climate change could be the beginning of a major global cultural shift — the dawn of a new age: the age of post-materialism — but only if ordinary people take charge of their predicament. The fat cats and politicians in charge have an intense interest in things remaining spending-focused.

Living within our means will make us happier and healthier than we've been in years.

So don't spend more, spend less, pay off your debts if possible and then demand reform.

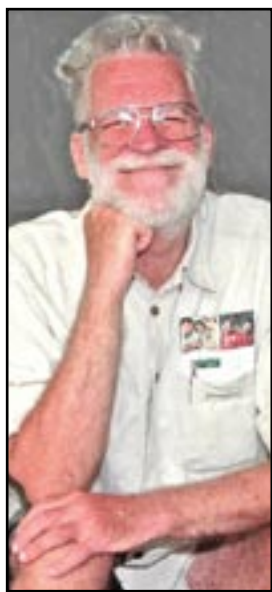
Vote with your wallet.

Paulie Phillips

**William Goode,
Lismore**

Sjoerd H. Schaafsma

*Bandung 11.12.1936 -
Nimbin 29.10.2008*



We thank everybody kindly for their compassion during the short time of Sjoerd's illness.

A special thank you to the staff of Nimbin Hospital, Palliative Care and Community Nursing and Blue Knob Hall.

**Hetty Schaafsma
and Family**

Share Sought in Nimbin Community

We are a peaceful family of three, looking to buy into an existing community in or around Nimbin.

I am a naturopath, my partner a potter and my daughter is into permaculture. We also have two cats and a dog and are not vegetarian.

We are looking for either vacant land share to build on or with an existing shack/dwelling.

Please contact Karen at –

karenbart@hotmail.com

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Notices

Situation Available

Like-minded couple wanted to live on large lifestyle property. Must be outdoorsy, interested in self-sufficiency and sustainability. Phone (4-7pm) 6689 3140.

Lismore Community Sustainability Forum

10.30am – 3pm, Sunday December 7, 25 Charles Street, South Lismore. Celebrate with a BBQ, beer and swim in the river. Enquiries contact Gordon 6622 4221.

Ticks Wanted

Large numbers needed of adult female paralysis ticks, minimum 20 ticks of reasonable size. \$2.20 each. Aus Vet Serum Laboratories, phone 6622 0033.

PCs Wanted

Nim-FM needs your old computer (Pentium II or higher). Don't take it to the tip, take it to your community radio station (and join up while you're there). Phone 6689 0279.

NNIC Xmas and New Year

NNIC will be closing on Friday 19th December and re-opening on Monday 5th January 2009.

The Centrelink Agency will be **open as usual** between 10am and 2pm on weekdays, except for public holidays (Xmas Day, Boxing Day, New Years Day).

Check with our Centrelink Agency staff, Julia or Venessa, for any special payment dates over the festive season.

Nimbin Visitor Centre

"Information for locals and visitors"

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Sundays on Nimbin Market Weekend



80 Cullen Street Nimbin
6689 1388
nimbin@lismore.nsw.gov.au

Gardening Guide makes saving water easy

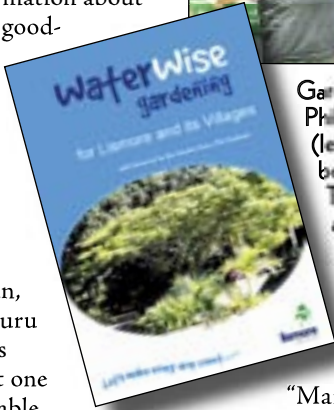
A new gardening book which outlines simple ways to design, build and maintain a waterwise garden in the Lismore area has been launched by Lismore City Council.

Titled Waterwise Gardening for Lismore and its Villages, the book is full of useful information about how to have a good-looking healthy garden whilst applying water-saving best practice principles.

Phil Dudman, the Garden Guru said, "Water is without doubt one of our most valuable public resources, so we need to be responsible about the way we use it in our homes and gardens." "That doesn't mean we should stop planting - plants are an important part of the water cycling process and we need to get more in the ground," he said.



Gardening guru Phil Dudman (left) launches the book with author Trevor Trustrum, at Lismore Showground.



Mr Dudman said, "Many gardeners know that with the right preparation and plant selection, you can create a beautiful garden with very little watering".

This guide teaches you everything you need to know, from designing a waterwise garden to how to make your plants more independent, and it's all

based on local knowledge. "Gardeners are like the quiet achievers of the environmental movement and let's face it, they spend all their spare time nurturing the soil and creating beautiful places for people and wildlife to enjoy", he said.

Phil went on to say, "The thing I like about this guide is that it recognises the valuable contribution that gardeners make to the community and it gives people all the knowledge and confidence they need to keep on planting in the most water efficient way."

Copies of Waterwise Gardening for Lismore and its Villages are available from Lismore City Council offices.

From the mayor's desk

by Jenny Dowell
mayor of Lismore

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

Nimbin Forum

It was heartening for councillors to see the numbers of Nimbin residents who attended last month's contact forum in the School of Arts. The level of interest in Council and its activities in Nimbin always guarantees a well-attended forum but this one was special as it was promoted also by the new executive of the Chamber of Commerce who took notes and hosted a supper following the forum allowing residents and councillors to interact informally. Nimbin is the only village to have an annual forum and November 16 is the date for 2009 so mark it on your calendar now.

Federal money

I was one of the 440 mayors who attended the Federal government's first Australian Council of Local Government meeting in Canberra two weeks ago. The gathering ushered in a new era of relations between these two spheres of government and of course the announcement of \$300m in spending lubricated the relationship. Lismore is eligible for \$1.049m and we will decide on several projects for this money at our December 9 meeting.

In addition, Lismore will apply for funds from the \$50m available on a competitive basis for projects requesting \$2m or

more. Both lots of money are required to be spent by September 2009 so it is vital we get moving.

Council Finances

Council has not been immune to the global financial crisis and although they remain paper losses until we are advised that several investments will not be realised, it is fair to say that we are facing about \$1.2m loss at this stage. To manage that loss and to set our position for the end of the financial year, council has decided to trim our sails by revisiting the current budget and determining where some savings could be made. Staff have done a great job in identifying over \$870,000 in cuts that will not impact on our service delivery but will see us end the financial year in good shape rather than with a sizeable deficit.

Strategic Plan

One of the most important things that a new Council determines is its strategic plan. This process takes some time to be refined but in time Lismore residents will have the opportunity to comment and provide feedback on the direction we are setting for the coming term and beyond.

Australia Day

Last month I urged NGT readers to consider nominating people for Lismore's Australia Day Awards. The closing date for these awards has been extended to January 14 so don't let the rush of Christmas put you off



if you are considering a nomination. There are many categories and forms are available on www.lismore.nsw.gov.au or from me.

NOROC

I am delighted to announce that I have been elected President of NOROC (Northern Rivers Regional Organisation of Councils). Following the PM's summit of Mayors, the role of ROCs is more important than ever as we forge a new relationship directly through the Australian Council of Local Government with the Federal sphere. In the coming months, NOROC and its seven Councils and two County Councils will develop its priorities so that we can speak with one voice on the regional issues that affect the Northern Rivers. Personal

Many thanks for all those readers who continue to wish me well on my health journey. I am doing reasonably well following my first course of chemotherapy and am pleased to have been able to enjoy such great community events as the Blue Moon Cabaret, Nimbin Women's Dinner and the ten year anniversary of Nimbin markets with the hand-over of the Community Centre title into local hands.

Simon says...



by Councillor Simon Clough

It's been a hectic month, and our L-plates are getting a workout. We took them to Broken Hill for the annual Local Government conference. Ray Houston, Gianpiero Battista and I represented Lismore City Council.

Whilst I was disappointed with a lack of focus on sustainability projects on the official agenda, it was a great opportunity to find out what some other councils are achieving during our informal networking. For example, Orange City Council has built an "Environmental Learning Facility" (ELF) incorporating sustainable materials, solar power and hot water, and provides community education programmes.

It was hard not to be amazed and impressed with the dramatic and beautiful desert landscape of Broken Hill. Understandably it has inspired many artists, and with the downturn in mining, Broken Hill has made a name for itself on the tourist map with a vibrant culture of art galleries and stunning desert sculptures - a wonderful investment in community! It certainly made our Lismore team think about the role culture and art can play in creating a more vibrant Lismore.

Predictably, the conference involved lots of eating and drinking opportunities. I noticed a lot of older men who couldn't see their toes, and became fearful that this might be an occupational hazard of being on Council. I tried to hire a bicycle, but was unable to find an outlet.

A further benefit of the Broken Hill trip was the opportunity to get to know Ray and Gianpiero better as we spent a lot of time together. It was also a great opportunity to meet and talk to councillors from our neighbouring areas of Ballina and Byron Bay.

After returning home, fairly quickly we were thrown into the thick of things, with some major issues requiring a lot of reading, workshops and meetings. I receive twenty to thirty emails daily, and have averaged 15 hours per week in meetings and site inspections recently. Champion's Quarry, the McLeans Ridges rezoning, and the Clunes Wastewater system are just some of the issues on the table. A lot of you will recall that these issues were controversial during the council election campaign, with major concerns expressed by many residents.

While our Council has some excellent environmental projects such as the Cities for Climate Change Local Action Plan, water conservation strategies, and Sustainable Urban Businesses Programme. I believe that environmental sustainability needs to be the criterion for all of Council's activities especially the larger developments. I strongly advocate the incorporation of sustainability in the Lismore City Council's vision statement as a matter of urgency.

On a lighter note, we had the privilege of attending Nimbin's Blue Moon Cabaret recently. Mayor Jenny Dowell, retiring councillor Ros Irwin and I, along with our partners, had a thoroughly enjoyable evening. The standard of the entertainment was exceptional, and the event was a credit to the Nimbin community.

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Turning the Page



Working together. At Parliament House in Canberra for the Australian Council of Local Government meeting, from left: Ballina Mayor Phil Silver, Clarence Valley Mayor Richie Williamson, Member for Page, Janelle Saffin MP, Lismore Mayor Jenny Dowell, Richmond Valley Deputy mayor Shirley Wheatley and Kyogle Shire mayor Ross Brown.

from Janelle Saffin, MP

The first week in December marks the final parliamentary sitting of the year, and it's pleasing to note that the Rudd Government's first parliamentary year has been book-ended by two historic events.

In the first session prime minister Kevin Rudd made the long awaited formal apology to the Stolen Generations and their families. And what an incredible atmosphere there was in Parliament that day.

Then just before the final session of the year, the prime minister welcomed mayors and council representatives from around Australia to another historic event – the first meeting of the Australian Council of Local Government.

This meeting on November 18 gave life to the spirit of the founders of our Federation. They envisaged the creation of a Federation from the bottom up; from the great states and regional areas of Australia.

The Australian Council of Local Government, chaired

by Federal Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Local Government Minister Anthony Albanese, lays the groundwork for a new, equal and stronger partnership between the Commonwealth and local spheres of government.

We now have a framework to develop a more coherent planning reform agenda for nation building. Through this framework, we can improve service delivery that provides local solutions to local communities.

During my first year in office, I have worked to build a close relationship with the elected leaders and general managers of the five local government areas in the electorate of Page.

Ballina Shire mayor Cr Phil Silver, Clarence Valley mayor Cr Richie Williamson, Kyogle Shire mayor Cr Ross Brown, Lismore City mayor Cr Jenny Dowell and Richmond Valley deputy mayor Cr Shirley Wheatley made a great impression in Canberra, clearly advocating their communities' priorities.

Prime minister Kevin Rudd announced that a \$300

million downpayment on the Government's Regional and Local Community Infrastructure Program was ready to be spent – now.

This economic stimulus package, brought forward from the 2009-10 Budget, is an additional part of the Rudd Labor Government's economic security strategy.

The funding to local councils is for ready-to-go projects such as upgrading local halls, libraries and sporting fields. These will create jobs, help sustain local communities and foster social inclusion.

The historic first meeting of the ACLG provides us with the opportunity to address issues of local importance and national significance.

And I'd like to take this opportunity to extend to you my best wishes for the holiday season and the New Year.

Janelle

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

Nimbin Central School granted project funding

from Justine Elliot, MP

The Rudd Government has announced that Nimbin Central School has been successful in their application for funding of \$10,000 from the Australian Government's Career Education Lighthouse Schools Project for their project "Career Pathways".

The Career Education Lighthouse Schools Project is part of the Australian Government's \$143 million Career Advice Australia initiative, which provides a comprehensive national career development and transition support system for all young Australians aged from 13 to 19 years.

Nimbin Central School is one of 41 schools nationally who will share \$500,000 in funding. The schools will showcase the vital role of career education in schools. They will also provide other schools with the information and inspiration to make career education an integral part of every curriculum.

The project aims to improve career education in schools by engaging greater numbers of school leaders and the wider school community to develop and deliver career education in their schools.

The Career Education Lighthouse Schools Project is just another example of the Australian Government's continued commitment to provide high quality career information and support for all Australian Students.

Councils to share in \$300M Infrastructure

Local Councils within Richmond will be offered more than \$3.6 million, this financial year as part of the Rudd Labor Government's \$300 million community infrastructure stimulus package to help local communities respond to the global financial crisis.

This is some welcome relief for our communities who are feeling the pinch of the global financial crisis.

- Tweed Shire Council – \$1,293,000,
- Byron Shire Council – \$609,000,



Regional initiatives. Justine with Minister for the Environment Peter Garrett MP and Minister for Tourism Martin Ferguson MP at the launch of the eco-tourism strategy, Green Caldera.

- Lismore Council – \$1,049,000,
- Ballina Council – \$721,000.

Australian Council of Local Government

Recently I attended the inaugural meeting of the Australian Council of Local Government in Canberra to participate in a special session entitled: *Improving wellbeing in our communities*. More than 400 mayors and local government representatives attended the meeting at Parliament House.

Local government plays a very important role in delivering a range of health and community services in Australian communities. In fact, local government provides 2,694 nursing home places in Australia. In addition it provides 2,422 community care places.

The Australian Government provides record funding to aged and community care. Over the next four years, it will invest more than \$41.6 billion. The Rudd Labor Government wants to improve our nation's health. Council programs and services are well placed to deliver necessary services.

The meeting provided a great opportunity for the visiting mayors to share their ideas and concerns. The

dialogue helped to ensure that local government is a strong part of this Government's nation building agenda. All Australian communities have their own unique needs. Mayors at the summit represented some of the most remote parts of the country, metropolitan areas and coastal communities.

Indeed Australia's mayors showcased a number of innovative and constructive projects being run by councils. It was fantastic meeting with many of them and building on the partnership between the Rudd Labor Government and local governments from around the country.

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
107 Minjungbal Drive
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BACKYARD BLITZ



POLICE BEAT

November 2008

Prepared by Senior Constable Peter Irby, Nimbin Police.

• Drug possessions

On Sunday November 2 during high visibility patrols within the Nimbin township police seized amounts of cannabis from numerous persons. These persons informed police that they purchased the drugs from a well known tourist attraction in Nimbin. The persons were issued Court Attendance Notices to attend Lismore Local Court. Police stopped another male person that afternoon where police seized an amount of "ice" (amphetamines). That person was also charged and is to attend Lismore Local Court.

• Disqualified driver

On Sunday 11th November police patrolling the Nimbin township stopped a male driver for a random breath test. Checks were conducted by police which revealed that the male driver was 'disqualified'. Further checks revealed that the vehicle was also unregistered and uninsured. The offender was issued a Court Attendance Notice to attend Lismore Local Court.

• Alcohol Warnings

On Tuesday 18th November police conducting a foot patrol of the Nimbin CBD spoke to persons consuming alcohol within the vicinity of Allsop Park and Cullen Street. Police want to make it clear that the alcohol free zone will be appropriately enforced by police.

• Malicious damage

Between 10pm and midnight on Friday 21st November, the front door to the Nimbin Community Centre was damaged. Witnesses to the matter have reported two persons running from the location. Police inquiries are continuing.

• Search warrants issued

Police conducted search warrants at Nimbin and Larnook addresses during the last week of November. Police allege that a 54-year-old Nimbin man cultivated a large amount of cannabis plants and possessed a large amount of gold-topped mushrooms for supply purposes. The offender from this matter committed these offences after being given a last chance by the court in May this year. On that occasion he had his sentence of 8 months imprisonment for supplying drugs to undercover police deferred. He will be lucky to get that sort of leniency this time.

Another 49-year-old male who frequents Nimbin has been charged with similar offences for possessing 50 cannabis plants and almost two kilograms of cannabis leaf which was seized in a raid at Larnook. The offender from the Larnook incident has been granted conditional bail to appear at Lismore Local Court.

• Break and enter

A 21-year-old male was arrested by Nimbin Police and the Joint Investigation Response Team (JIRT) for a break and enter offence. The offender has had bail refused and is due to appear in Lismore Local Court on the December 2.

• Drug Possession

On Friday 28th November, the brother of a 21-year-old male arrested earlier in the week was arrested by Nimbin police whilst conducting a foot patrol of a well known Nimbin tourist attraction. The man ran from police and after being restrained was found to have a large sum of money and a significant quantity of white powder on his person. In addition to drug charges, police allege that the money is proceeds of criminal acts. The man has been refused bail and is to appear before Lismore Local Court on the 5th of February 2009.

• In the Community

Nimbin Police attended the Nimbin Public School on Thursday the 27th November for a breakfast hosted by the school. The breakfast was aimed at integration between the school and the Nimbin community. There is a saying that it takes a community to raise a child and not just a parent. The country town community of Nimbin at times fits that bill. We believe it is important that all community members are there for the youth. This is especially important in helping them to develop their ability to make lawful, ethical and moral decisions. Nimbin Police look forward to continuing this relationship with the school.

• Assistance available

Nimbin police want to hear from you. We assure confidentiality where possible, however, we also believe that criminal acts and anti-social behaviour should not be tolerated. Please contact Nimbin Police in person, or on any of our phone numbers – Nimbin Station 6689 1244, Emergency 000, Police Assistance Line 131 444 or Crimestoppers 1800 333 000.



Rainbow bridge to Woodstock for 40th anniversary

by Harsha Prabhu

Organisers of a unique local cultural archive have been invited to exhibit at a special alternative vision expo to celebrate the 40th anniversary of the Woodstock Festival in the US next year.

"Some Children of the Dream" – which explores the genesis and subsequent development of the alternative movement in the rainbow region – will be on show at the Woodstock Museum during the Woodstock anniversary in August 2009.

Environmental artist Benny Zable launched the rainbow bridge to Woodstock at the Channon market drum circle on 9 Nov '08. Says Benny: "With the winds of change blowing across the globe, the 40th anniversary of the Woodstock Festival offers everyone an unprecedented opportunity to celebrate and promote a sustainable cultural, social, economic and spiritual vision to the world, especially to the youth. And we from the rainbow region are uniquely placed to make a

contribution to this emerging global vision for a peaceful planet."

Plans are also underway to feature the exhibit at Ecofest, the largest environmental festival on the east coast of the US, held in New York in September 2009, on the grounds of the Lincoln Centre.

A sample from the exhibit can be viewed at www.somechildren.net and this archive is currently being updated.

The curators of this exciting project are interested to hear from activists, cultural visionaries, archivists, writers & photographers who may wish to contribute material to this cultural archive. The organisers hope to publish a book and compile a music, film & video archive to travel with the exhibit. They are also talking up the idea of a cultural troupe from the rainbow region to visit Woodstock and New York and are inviting expressions of interest from local sponsors to help them produce a content-rich cultural exchange.

Co-curator of the show, Harsha Prabhu says: "The sixties, the decade that gave birth to the



Global issues. Benny Zable and friends launching the "Rainbow Bridge" to Woodstock, at The Channon craft market, NSW, on 9th November.

Woodstock generation, were a time of crisis and change, but also a time of dreams. With the current crisis that the world faces – poverty, wars, environmental disasters, climate change, faltering economies – it is now time to dream again."

For more info on "Some Children of the Dream" please contact Harsha at 66807380 / 0434490737 or email somechildren@yahoo.com.au

This project is supported by the Lismore Regional Gallery and Byron Neighbourhood Resource Centre.

Cannabis activists continue struggle for equal rights

by Michael Balderstone,
MardiGrass Organising Body (MOB)

We are getting quite a few people asking if MardiGrass is still on next year, probably because of the raids on the Nimbin Museum and the HEMP Bar.

Hello!! Why would it be cancelled? The currently happening chopper raids are a stark reminder of how nothing has changed.

We are 100% committed to Nimbin's annual Cannabis Law Reform Rally happening on the first weekend in May, until this Rolls Royce of the plant world is legalised again. We will never stop asking for equal rights, which is what it amounts to. The 2009 MardiGrass is on May 2 & 3.

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