

Bearing witness and bearing banners for peace

by Graeme Dunstan,
Peacebus.com

The flag and banner arrayed at Kangaroo Point, Brisbane, drew toots of support and waving peace signs from passing motorists, some stopping to say their support in person.

The occasion was the unveiling of a new banner which I had painted up in preparation for upcoming campaign to obstruct and counter the biennial US - Australian war games which take place at Shoalwater Bay, near Yeppoon in central Queensland.

Scheduled to run for three weeks from July 6 to 26, the live-fire war games dubbed Talisman-Sabre, will involve some 30,000 US and Australian military personnel, cost Australian taxpayers at least \$50 million and bomb and blast coastal waters and pristine rainforest of the largest wilderness area on the central Queensland coast.

Peace activists see the war games as a tax heist to train and prepare Australian defence forces



Unfurling the banner. Peace Convergence Protesters supported by Auntie Lilla (third from left), maternal aunt to Johnnie, Phillip and Michael Bayles.

for military aggression and engagement in more US wars. Environmentalists see the war games as

environmental folly and senseless destruction.

The Shoalwater Bay area is one of high environmental significance, habitat to many migratory birds, nesting sites for turtles, feeding grounds for dugongs and home to 26 species of dolphins and whales including humpbacks and the endangered Blue Whale.

Under the former Howard Government an area the size of Denmark was effectively ceded to the US military - the worst polluters on the planet - to serve as a 'test facility' for 50 years.

Environmental impacts include the hazard created for marine and land-based wildlife, water contamination from toxic chemicals and heavy metals, effects on air quality, fire potential, noise pollution, waste disposal and spills as well as erosion created by amphibian craft landings and high explosives.

Our Kangaroo Point banner unveiling was presented as the Brisbane

launch of the 2009 campaign and it was supported by local elder Auntie Lilla Watson, former Democrat leader Andrew Bartlett, Fr Terry Fitzpatrick from St Mary's in Exile, Annette Brownlie of Justice Peace Queensland, Robin Taubenfeld from the Anti-Bases Coalition, Jim McIlroy from Brisbane Socialist Alliance, and other friends.

In number we were few. But we were convivial, occupying public place with style, sitting around the Peacebus.com folding table, chatting and drinking ginger tea. And the corporate media stayed away in droves. So it is with the peace movement at this time: off the agenda.

This year's operation is the fourth in the biennial Talisman Sabre series, which two years ago saw up to 1,000 protesters travel to the area to express their opposition. In preparation, 600 peace activists marched through Brisbane's West End.

No such mass mobilisation this time around. It's as if the TV-hyped elections of Rudd and Obama have lulled peace activists into complacency even though under the post Howard/Bush US Alliance, defence expenditure and the commitment of troops to foreign wars has increased.

\$62 million dollars a day is what the Rudd government is currently spending on the military. And for what? Not defence, that's for sure. To the contrary our defence forces have been hijacked for offense in the support of endless US imperial wars.

War and the preparation for war do not security bring. We who believe in freedom will not rest. Nor will we who know that the path to peace is peace.

But no billions of tax dollars for peace work. For the benefit of future generations, we peace activists must do best we can and reinvent ourselves and our tactics in every season.

Rainbow Bridge to Woodstock

Artists, musicians and performers from across the rainbow region are part of a fundraiser to help send *Rainbow Dreaming*, the multimedia photo-documentary on the rainbow region, to Woodstock for the 40th anniversary in August.

Rainbow Bridge to Woodstock will take place on Saturday, 4th July, at Durrumbul Hall.

"Once again, artists are at the forefront of our fundraising efforts. They have taken up the challenge thrown by Byron shire mayor, Jan Barham, who made a personal donation of \$200 to start us off. Lismore mayor, Jenny Dowell, is also a keen supporter." said Harsha Prabhu, co-curator.

The challenge: to realise the dream to get *Rainbow Dreaming* to Woodstock before 15th August, the date of the anniversary." A sample of the exhibit can be viewed at www.rainbowdreaming.org.

Woodstock is just the first stop. This landmark exhibit has also been invited to *Ecofest*, New York, on 5th October.

"*Ecofest* is the largest environmental festival on the east coast of USA. This year, its 21st, it's taking place in Central Park. We're really excited about the prospect of setting up our spiral, bamboo exhibit, with our photos and stories and Benny Zable's rainbow flags right in the heart of New York," said Harsha.

"We've also been invited to *West Fest*, Golden Gate Park, San Francisco, 25th October, and we're honoured to be invited to celebrate the Woodstock anniversary with them," said Harsha.

Organisers are also hoping to collect an archive of locally made documentary films and music to travel with the exhibit. "We've got free surfer Dave Rastovich's film *Life Like Liquid* that we'll be showing. There's an increasing awareness of our connection with the creatures of the oceans and keeping the peace in the water and Rasta's doco draws this out, accompanied by some great grooves.

Pete Seeger, the legendary folk singer, who's now 90, has given a new focus to water issues. His message is simple - Water, Not Weapons - and we'll be linking up with his initiative" Harsha said.

But it's only going to happen if organisers are able to generate the money to get to Woodstock.

You can help by making a donation to: Southern Cross Credit Union, BSB 802185, AC No: 134992, ACC Name: TF Rainbow Dreaming. All donations of \$20 and over will be acknowledged. Donations are tax deductible via the Byron Community and Cultural Centre, who are auspicing this project.

Rainbow Dreaming is curated by Graeme Batterbury and Harsha Prabhu, produced by the Rainbow Collective and supported by Lismore Regional Gallery, Byron Neighbourhood Resource Centre and Mullumbimby and District Neighbourhood Centre.

All enquiries: Harsha Prabhu, 0434-490-737, go2harsha@yahoo.com.au



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RepcO Rally legislation: Legalised Eco-Vandalism

by Chris Degenhardt

For some reason that escapes me, motor sport is considered to be such a crucial event for NSW that Ian Macdonald has decreed State laws that apply to mere mortals do not apply where 'Holy Hooning' is concerned.

MacDonald has introduced special legislation to ensure that the Repco Rally goes ahead, regardless of huge local opposition based on the contravention of a number of NSW Acts of Parliament.

MacDonald overcomes this small hiccup by changing the relevant Acts that should by rights, if implemented, be enough to stop this maniacal motorfest from going ahead:

- The Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979 Part 5, which includes protection of threatened species; adverse affect of life cycle of species; critically endangered ecological community; and threat to habitat of endangered species.

- The Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979 Part 3a currently the Minister of Planning has to assess development applications before determining them.

- The Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979 Part.6 2a in which if a project is refused on environmental grounds an appeal by the proponent is to be lodged within 60 days

- The National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974 part 8a in which penalty infringement notices can be imposed for minor one-off offences. For more serious offences (i.e. intentional damage) EPA prosecution deadlines are recommended
- The Local Government Act 1993 section 68 in which A person may carry out an activity with the prior approval of the council, except in so far as this Act, the regulations or a local policy adopted under Part 3 (Water management Act 2000) allows the activity to be carried out without that approval. A person who fails to obtain an approval or who carries out an activity otherwise than in accordance with an approval is guilty of an offence.

- The Forestry Act 1916 which includes: offences relating to dangerous activities; control of persons, vehicles and machines; lighting of fires in forestry areas; camping in forestry areas; licenses and permits; and activities prescribed for special purposes permit.

- The Water Management Act 2000 which includes the ruling that the fundamental health of our rivers and groundwater systems and associated wetlands, flood plains and estuaries has to be protected.

- The Motor vehicle Sports (Public Safety Act) 1985, in which the NSW Government declares that Motor sport is inherently dangerous and NSW is the only state in Australia that has specifically legislated for public safety at motor vehicle sports events, requires Licenses for all motor sport events



Scott Sledge and Ian Cohen MP

conducted on private property only (non public roads).

Motor sport events which are conducted on public roads are not required to be licensed under this Act, but are required to be formally approved by the RTA and NSW Police Service under the Road and Transport Legislation.

Under this new legislation, where Repco Rally is concerned, none of these rules need apply! Suspension of this road and noise legislation allows Repco Rally Australia to contravene safety and health regulations.

Concerning the protection of exercise of function of the Minister or public authority under this new legislation, the Act may not be challenged, reviewed, quashed or even called into question before any court of law or administrative review body in any proceedings.

Democracy has become a Demockery!



Simple Question

The Tweed Caldera has more diversity in plant and animal species than Kakadu.

If you care to look.

But one stroke of the elected government's pen was all it took.

To force a motorcar rally on our precious valley.

Will the roadkill be swept under the carpet?

Will there be an accurate tally?

Will the cash registers sing as they promised?

Will it compensate damaging the forest?

It's easy to be comforted by spin, ignorance is bliss.

Keep watching, history will judge us harshly for this.

It's a simple question I put to you.

Would you be happy with a motorcar rally through Kakadu?

Mark Comport

Solar Feed-In Tariffs: What difference will they make?

On 23rd June the NSW Government finally announced its Grid Feed-in Tariff (FIT) policy. It will start on 1st January and will pay \$0.60/kWh for net exported power.

Gordon Fraser-Quick, of the Lismore Council Sustainability Forum said, "This is great news. Congratulations are in order to the NSW Government.

"The added economic return on investment will encourage installation of even more climate-helping renewable energy infrastructure."

Dave Lambert, of the Rainbow Power Company said that the tariff for net exported power is not as generous as a gross FIT, which would pay a premium for all solar power produced, and not just the portion that was exported, but it is still a huge improvement over the present system of 'net billing', which pays the same for export as you pay to purchase the power.

He gave an example of the savings to be gained from the new tariff:

"First of all let me explain what a Net FIT means. I

sometimes refer to it as an 'instantaneous net' calculation. Let's say your solar panels are producing 800 Watts and the only appliance on in your house is a 200 Watt fridge. This will result in the meter showing you are exporting 600 Watts. If this occurs for 2 hours, you will have exported 1200Wh or 1.2kWh. Your credit for this will be 1.2 x \$0.60 = \$0.72.

"This type of FIT billing greatly advantages those who use little power during the day – eg everyone is at work/school or on holiday. If you already have a grid feed system, you can look at your last few bills and multiply your export by \$0.60, instead of the present \$0.16, to get an idea of your savings after 1st January.

"If you have a very large daytime electrical load – eg several computers, fridges, pool pump etc) your annual saving from a 1kW solar system will be what it is under the present net billing system – about \$300/year.

"On the other hand if you plan to go to Europe for a year, your total export from a 1kW system amounts to a credit of about \$1100!"

Gordon Fraser-Quick had done his calculations:

"The impact on my now solar powered home will be significant. In my last power bill I was paid 16.55 cents per kilowatt hour of energy (Kwh) I exported to the grid. I exported 519 Kwh, from my 10 panel 1.7 Killowatt system, and received a credit of \$84.75. Under the new scheme, for the same 519Kwh I export I will receive \$311.40, or an increase of \$226.65."

Dave Lambert was equally optimistic:

"I have had a look at my own power bills for the past year. I have a modest power usage – only the fridge on during the weekdays, electric cooking, cooling and heating, medium size TV and computer. I have a 1kW system and a solar hot water system. My current three-monthly bill is about \$90. Looking at my last two bills, I calculate my export rebate will be about \$143 per quarter or \$572/year.

"Overall, my bill will be in credit, even after the 20% power increase next month."

Clearly this adds to the affordability of photovoltaic systems over time and gives even more reason to go solar.

TOOT slams State Budget

Karin Kolbe, President of Trains On Our Tracks, was non-plussed by the state budget for 2009/10.

She said, "Once again the NSW Government is ignoring the needs of this region. The NSW Transport Minister has been in the job for 21 months but has never visited the area to understand our transport needs.

"There is no money for regional public transport. Planning for the highly dubious Sydney metro project gets \$581 million for planning, while our line remains abandoned.

"With a fraction of that, we would create immediate jobs here. Our line is here

and we know what needs to be done."

She said the NSW budget fails the people of Northern Rivers because, "It ignores climate change and the need for sustainable transport;

it ignores the reality of our existing and increasing population; it ignores the needs of lower income and elderly residents; and it ignores the needs of the tourism industry."

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Great family fun at Koonorigan fete

It's on again — the Koonorigan Village Fete, Saturday 4th July, 10am-5pm. Races, competitions, kids activities, a group craft project, enviro-friendly workshops, local live music, freshly cooked food, homemade cakes and local coffee, pony rides for the young, plants and preserves for the preserved and tug 'o' war for everyone in between!



Fete

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Game Zone makes mathematics mighty



Primary department teachers at Nimbin Central School are pleased with students' responses after conducting a Game Zone program that makes maths relevant and fun.

The program uses physical activities to explain and aid comprehension of challenging mathematical concepts, and proved ideal for the Year 2/ 3 /4 groups.

Kyogle NAIDOC/Reconciliation Day display

Kyogle library is proud to be a part of the 2009 NAIDOC/Reconciliation Day celebrations Friday, 19th July through an in-library display of art work and posters from the children of Collins Creek Public School, as well as NAIDOC and Reconciliation Day posters. Come in and check out the display, peruse the information, borrow from the library's display of resources and take and wear a Reconciliation Day badge to help celebrate and show your support for this local event. Contact Kyogle library staff phone 6632-1134 or web: www.richmondvalley.nsw.gov.au/library

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Nimbin Vacation Care Winter Programme

Parents, caregivers and kids,

We warmly welcome everyone to the new Winter Holiday program. Please read the dates below carefully and book to avoid disappointment.

To book, phone NNIC on 6689-1692 between 10am and 4pm, Monday to Friday. Please note that the basic fee for Vacation Care is now \$10. Unfortunately we are also now asking for \$2 bus fare on excursions, as well as the usual cost of the activity.

Once again, we will be operating from Nimbin



Did you know that children love Shakespeare? It needn't be all thees and thous and nonsensical Olde English. Although, I do have to say, after suggesting last winter we perform a play by Shakespeare, the children became very excited about reciting this English.

The comedy, *Midsummer Night's Dream*, was chosen, and what a good choice it was. It appealed to their sense of the magical as well as the crazy and impossible! We decided too that it should be part of our midwinter celebration, hence our title change to *Midwinter Night's Dream*. This also gave rise to the idea of performing outside by candlelight where we could make use of the beautiful surroundings Tunttable Falls Community School is lucky to have.

For a term, we read a children's story version of the play, and believe us when we say that even this was complicated! After reading, acting out scenarios and much brainstorming, the class knew the play well enough to start thinking of what scenes they liked best and how they could write it into a script. A few lines were original – they did want that language – but most of the script was their own. They selected seven scenes and it was decided to begin at our beautiful creek where the story of Theseus and the Minotaur could take place. The next scenes would be acted

as we made our way toward Tunttable Hall where the final acts were to take place. Of course, the weather would not deter us.

From the beginning of this term the children began rehearsing.....and rehearsing! (This was a whole school endeavour from the preschoolers to the upper primary class)

As the term drew on and the rains came down, it began to look less likely that we were going to have our candle-lit play. But magic does happen, and at 3pm last Tuesday, the sun came out. It did turn out to be a magical evening and the children can be commended on their great acting and their sustained effort during the year.

Deborah (Teacher)

Audience member's review:

School plays can be purgatory, even if your child's in it. They can also be pure magic, and *A Midwinter Night's Dream* was one of the magic ones. The flames of candles and braziers added that medieval touch to the evening, and the migratory nature of the performance lent it an air of mystery. Some of the lines were hard to catch, and it wasn't always easy to see the performers in the outdoor scenes. But whether outdoors or on the hall stage, the young actors shone one and all with spirited delivery, great costumes and – of course – puckish humour.

Date	Program	Cost
Tuesday 14 th July	Excursion to Murwillumbah Cinema to see the 11.30am PG session - possibly "Ice Age 3" April & Scott	\$18.50
Wednesday 15 th July	MPU – Indoor Cricket, Knitting and Basket Weaving. • Children will begin a scarf and can finish at home if they bring their own needles + bring some wool for your own choice of colours. • Basket weaving materials will be provided, although donations of cotton string would be appreciated. April & Scott	\$10
Monday 20 th July	MPU – Clay Pots April & Julian	\$12
Tuesday 21 st July	Excursion to Lismore Skating Rink + Heritage Park. Please bring socks. April & Lynn	\$18.50
Wednesday 22 nd July	MPU – Mixed Crafts – jewellery, kites, dream catchers, painting, drawing, cards, potato prints....bring something to share.... April & Lynn	\$10

Central School. Please meet us at the front of the MPU at 9am on excursion days.

Please pick up your child no later than 3pm from the

MPU at the Nimbin School.

Please also ensure that your child wears appropriate clothing, covered shoes, and brings a hat, sun block

and has adequate food and drinks.



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March and Rally to address 'violence pandemic'

Anti-Violence March and Rally, Nimbin, Saturday 11th July, 10.30am

Women are at more risk of violence in the home from men that they know. Men are most at risk in public spaces and licensed premises from men they don't know.

(Australian Bureau of Statistics 2006 Personal Safety Survey)

Over one third (39.9%) of Australian women report experiencing at least one incident of physical violence or sexual violence since the age of 15. (ABS National Survey 2006)

Reported sexual assaults in Australia have increased by 51% since 1995 (Australian Institute of Criminology)

With these alarming statistics in mind a group of outraged members of the Nimbin community have been meeting to organise a march and rally against the increasing violence experienced in their community.

The escalating level of violence, not just in Nimbin but also around Australia, is unacceptable. Nimbin has seen an increase in malicious attacks with very few of them being reported to police, often for fear of retribution and intimidation. Consequently charges aren't laid and the perpetrators remain free to offend yet again.

"Indiscriminate brutal violence, drug and alcohol fuelled violence, and gang mentality seems to be increasingly tolerated in our community," said group member Ms Simpson. "People seem to be afraid to get involved when a violent situation is happening in the streets. It's almost regarded as theatre and entertainment and people are becoming desensitised. Whatever happened to the hippy ethos of peace and love in this town? Why are people tolerating the intolerable?"

"The rally catchcry is "Don't let them hide behind your silence" and we are asking people to come forward and show their adhorance and disgust to the violence that is so pervasive, by joining the march and rally," Ms Simpson went on to say.

There will be speakers addressing many different issues of violence that are committed in the Nimbin community, from violence against children, to violence against older people, and all other aspects in-between.

The rally will assemble at the Nimbin Hospital car park at 10.30am and march down to Allsopp Park at 11am.

"We are hoping to have ongoing events such as this to promote a culture of non violence in the Nimbin community," said Ms Simpson.



Wearing the green at the Men & Family Centre

MEN In GREEN campaign

Supporting Healthy & Respectful Relationships

It's well recognised that women and children can be the victims of violence and abuse, and some men the perpetrators.

There are some much needed, and fantastic, campaigns aimed at ending violence to women and children, eg "White Ribbon Campaign", VAW etc. Sadly, men can also be victims of violence, but there hasn't been a place for public condemnation of this.

To address this, the Lismore Men and Family Centre (LMFC) developed a MEN In GREEN campaign, and on Wednesday 17th June, during International Men's Health Week, everyone, particularly men, were encouraged to wear something green, as a statement of their commitment to create and

maintain respectful relationships.

The campaign attracted willing participants in the local area and beyond, with Janelle Saffin proudly wearing green in Parliament on the day.

The MEN In GREEN campaign does not want to detract from the very important women's campaigns, but aims to compliment them by inviting everyone, particularly men, to making a statement that violence anywhere to anyone, is not OK – by going Green, it's an opportunity for blokes to declare publicly their support for, and commitment to healthy, respectful relationships.

What are respectful relationships? They are when:

- Loving is being experienced;
- Compassion demonstrated;

- Caring is happening;
- Co-operation invited;
- Feelings of safety and trust are present;
- Relaxation and contentment are evident.

When these things are happening in a relationship, then contolling behaviour (all forms of violence and abuse) is not. Everyone feels safe and contented, able to truly be themselves. When the opposite is happening, when someone is being "forced" to do something they don't want to, then abusive, controlling behaviour is happening.

For more information go to www.menandfamily.org.au/meningreen_info.htm

Federal Funding

In June, Janelle Saffin MP announced that the Lismore Men and Family Centre (incorporating Men's Shed) had received a grant of \$171,620 for projects formerly funded under the Government's Local Answers program

Bill Taylor said the funding means the centre will be able to continue its programs to support men who are troubled by their violence, abuse or anger, and programs for their partners, as well as offering new programs including those for male survivors of sexual abuse, and 'Keeping Cool' boys school programs.

This funding is part of the Rudd Government's \$19.3 million commitment to the new Community Investment Program.

Scholarship available for 2009

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66 891 423



Poetry Cup launched



by Gail M. Clarke (6689-7424)

This year's Performance Poetry World Cup was officially launched on a freezing cold June night, when the Nimbin Oasis Cafe poets gathered together to share a great night of performance poetry.

We had a special guest, travelling Poet Ryhs Rogers and a first for poetry night, three generations of the Martin clan performed. Len Martin, current holder of the Cup, Kerry

(Len's daughter) who was enjoying her last night in Australia, and Michael her son all entertained us with their poems and stories.

We also launched the Major Fundraiser for this year's event, a raffle with some great prizes, so keep an eye out for me on the streets of Nimbin selling the tickets (*see below for details*).

Keep the weekend of 1st and 2nd August free and come along and share an absolutely fabulous weekend of Performance Poetry, and any poets reading this, why not check out www.nimbinpoetry.com and think about getting an application form in. Entries close 27th July. Enquiries? Phone me: 6689-7424.

Thanks to everybody who supports the Arts in this incredibly artistic community.

2009 Nimbin Performance Poetry World Cup Raffle

Major Fundraiser Raffle – Tickets: \$5

Prizes: \$300 Caltex Fuel Card, Double Weekend Pass to the Byron Bay Writers' Festival and a Hamper containing:

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Winner notified Monday 3rd August 2009

Mama Lala

Describing Mama Lala's unique sound is a much harder job than just listening and becoming immersed in it.

This is the music that Camilla Warner has been creating and performing for over 15 years. She has an amazing voice with equal song-writing talent.

She rocks out on the guitar with soul filled melodic detail and crooning harmonic vocals, which can heal your heart, then shreds it out on the violin.

Her song "Cement Trees" won Best Protest song at the 2008 Dolphin awards.

Camilla croons her melodic

healing voice over her funky guitar riffs and rhythms, while Norm rattles it on the didgeridoo, moving all to get up and dance. Zoe on the bass provides a solid platform for the originally Australian electronic beats.

Together, Mama Lala have performed at numerous venues and festivals, including the Woodford Folk Festival, Eingham Festival, and international festivals in California, England, Europe.

Their style has been called "the New Sound of Folk/Rock with twists of Reggae and Funk, progressing into



an Electronic Fusion of the styles," but if that's too much to get your head around, just shake your shoes off for a boogie to this dynamic performance.

Catch them this month at Sphinx Rocks Café, Sunday 12th July 1pm - 4pm and the Winsome Hotel, Thursday 16th July, 9pm.

Boogie Nights

Boogie Nights is a groove-busting, body-moving rollercoaster of disco and dance hits that will surely get you off your feet to boogie on down.

With a mixture of funkadelic tunes from the 70's, 80's, naughties and now, you can be sure that there is no better band of disco freaks to get the party started.

The delicious voice of Renée (*pictured*) will host your evening and take the night into a disco inferno of boogie bliss.



host your evening and take the night into a disco inferno of boogie bliss.

Accompanied by the funky slap rhythms of groovelicious Tony Von Baron and devious drumming deeds of Brett Bang, with the bubblegum retro synths of keyboard master, Gary Glitteroni and sly licks of Slinky Pinky, a young maestro of liquid guitar.

Get the picture? Boogie Nights are playing at Nimbin Bowling Club on Sunday 19th July, 2-5pm.



The Tendons

Lismore rockers The Tendons, pictured (*left*) at their Nimbin outing during June, playing support to The AntiBodies at the Nimbin Hotel.

They are: Glen (guitar/vocals), John (bass/vocals) and Guy (drums), and they know how to pump out very solid rock and roll that get the bodies moving onto the dancefloor..

They are gigging around now, and will be releasing their debut CD soon. Keep an ear out for these guys..

Ukitopia Cabaret 360

Cabaret360 has been created to inspire nurture and support local performing artists and their work.

Providing all manner of creative performers the opportunity to be involved in a high quality production showcased to the community at large.

Cabaret360 will feature performers from all over the Tweed Valley and beyond, performers in dance, physical theatre, comedy, circus, performance poetry, costume, storytelling, song and music. The show welcomes the unusual, the quirky, and the unique.

The show aspires to contain the full spectrum of creative moods and expression from the quiet, deep and sublime,



to the quirky outrageously funny and everything in between.

The show will be on the 31st July in the Uki Hall, which will be transformed into a multi stage theatre environment, with a

professional lighting designer, full sound reinforcement and a capacity audience ready to enjoy and appreciate!

For more information go to www.myspace.com/ukitopiaartcollective or phone Hamilton 0439-021-233

Vince Jones heads for Byron

Music lovers are in for a treat when Australia's legendary jazz vocalist, songwriter and trumpet player Vince Jones bring his band to Byron Bay – his only Noth Coast shows.

With a stellar career spanning three decades and 12 albums, Vince Jones is regarded as one of the world's greatest singers and jazz artists.

The heart of Vince's work lies at the crossroads of Afro-American blues and the melodies of the Celtic folk tradition. The songs he chooses, whether written by him or others, always make an original, personal statement. "I'll sing any song, as long as it's a vehicle for me to express myself," he says. "I'm sort of half-jazz. I've got the phrasing and the love of jazz, and I like the opportunity to take risks and grow."

Don't miss this rare chance to share an intimate evening with one of the true legends of Australian jazz, when Vince Jones performs with his piano trio – Mac McMahon, Simon Barker and Brett Hirst



– at Byron Bay Community Centre on Friday 17th and Saturday 18th July.

Tickets are \$28 + booking fee, available from the Byron Community Centre, 6685-6807, All Music and Vision Lismore, 6622-5399 or on-line at www.mullummusicfestival.com



Mick McHugh Duo

Irish singer-songwriter, Mick McHugh, and Australian Celtic Violinist, Camilla Warner, join forces to create foot tapping, yarn-spinning catchy sing-a-longs and heart touching ballads. The Irishman's debut CD's have been short-listed nationally and regionally for song writing, and his music has been recognised for its positive message. Catch the duo at Nimbin Hotel on Sat 4th July and Brunswick Hotel, Sun 5th July.

State of Origin Loss



For Nimbin's Che Potter (at left above), the Blues loss of both the match and the series in the NRL State of Origin game in June, was more than just symbolic.

A tragically-loyal Blues supporter, Che's hair

and eyebrows were riding on the outcome, and later the same night, he presented his bald pate to honour his wager.

Trouble is, this is the fourth year in a row that he's ended up a skinhead.

Calling all Bush Poets

The 2009 Nimbin Agricultural and Industrial Society Poetry Competition is calling for entries.

Bush verse or bush theme – entries limited to 28 lines per poem. No age limit, and there is a special prize for under 16-year old students.

No entry form is needed, send your poem(s) with a separate cover page with title, name and address and \$3.00 per entry to PO Box 165, Nimbin 2480 before the closing date of 30th August.



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