

## Skate culture

I am a user of the Nimbin Skate Park and I have also used other skate parks around the region. I would like to say that the Nimbin SK8 park is the best facility, and I have noticed also has the best culture of care and consideration.

At other skate parks around the Northern Rivers, I have witnessed bullying of younger children, older teens tending to take over the skate facility and some picking fights with other patrons. My experience in Nimbin has been that there is NO bullying of younger children and that even visitors to the Nimbin Skate Park have behaved in a sensible manner.

It's a great facility and the culture is fantastic! Keep up the standard, Nimbin skaters!

Matt Miller (15yrs)  
Nimbin

## The case for weeds

I would suggest to Triny Roe (NGT Aug 11) that prickly pear was never "invasive" but regenerative. We did not notice this because of the inherent violence of our European consciousness, which doesn't mind a war.

Those areas of Australia subject to prickly pear were already mostly degraded from land clearing and chemical agriculture when it took hold. Many of these areas were on the verge of semi-aridity. Prickly pear, being a water-filled cactus, was doing its best to provide water holding facilities and biomass to areas obviously requiring both.

It even came with a fruit suitable for human consumption. In Western Australia I have seen a species that has approximately 12 fruits to every segment. The segments

could be compared to leaves.

Rather than start a fruit industry, which is what they do in many other countries of the world where prickly pear grows, we preferred to kill it because apparently we preferred a stock industry with its accompanying body, land and stock animal degradation.

The Global Invasive Species database records "invasive alien species" because it is not able to account for soil degradation and the fact that weed rampancy is the efficient provisioning of biomass, which is the means by which nature raises levels of soil organic matter.

It is silly to think that at this time of soil degradation and degradation of air through climate change, that plants that are part of dynamic ecosystems are going to remain static in their place of origin. They will always attempt to move to where conditions are favourable to them. It is an unrecognised blessing that they do so.

The current war on weeds, like the war in terrorism, is another on-going perpetual war where the biggest winners are the armament manufacturers, and the biggest losers are the innocents – in the case of weeds, the soil.

Geoff Dawe  
Byrill Creek

## Weed invasion

Far North Coast Weeds has commenced helicopter operations again.

There is no legal requirement to notify. Yet CASA (Civil Aviation Safety Authority) states that as a matter of courtesy it is normal practice for a governmental body (police excluded) to notify landowners.

As we know historically, FNCW is not into courtesy.

However, it is illegal to fly less than 150 metres clearance as measured from the roof of a house or top of trees. FNCW in fact recently flew illegally low over my property. Regrettably, I did not take the essential photographic evidence for CASA to take action.

I won't be so lame next time.

Paul Recher  
Dorroughby

## Failure of Environmentalists

I have recently had a crisis of faith in my respect of environmental movement. It occurred last week when walking to the Mebbin lagoons in Mebbin National Park.

I was invited on the walk by some fellow bush regenerators, and we spent some time clearing the path of Lantana, which had grown over the old logging trails of the former state forest. The area of Mebbin NP as many of you know is extremely picturesque and contains many large impressive trees and a good amount of regrowth.

The area was preserved as a National Park by the actions of protestors sometime in the 1990s who resisted the utilitarian, "Nature as Larder" perspective of foresters.

So it was to my absolute horror that I witnessed the actions of the Nimbin bushwalking group in this magnificent area that had been set aside for nature preservation. One of their members was pulling vines down out of a giant water gum! This person was reefing the vines down out of the trees as you might attack some wayward garden weed. And for what reason? Apparently there is a forthcoming Nimbin basket-weaving workshop and they needed some raw materials.

No one in the Nimbin bushwalkers seemed to think that there was anything wrong in this act, and in

fact helped this vine thief by carrying their ill-gotten gains from the national park thereby condoning this abusive action, which in its intent is akin to the attitude of the foresters who removed trees for similar utilitarian reasons.

No doubt you may wonder why I am angry about such a trivial matter, there are far worse things happening in the world! There are bigger problems than this! But my point is that if we – we environmentalists and so called Greenies, cannot even abide by our own loosely defined criterion of "a respect for nature" and honour the purpose of a national park, how can we expect the rest of society to do the same?

Sam Dawson  
Eungella

## Council processes

The proposed changes to the Nimbin water supply caused an understandable stir in the Nimbin community.

I was very concerned about the processes council initiated in the form of a letter sent to affected residents that lacked proper information. It seemed that matters were being rushed and residents had not had adequate time to be fully briefed.

After a motion that I put forward at the last council meeting, residents were given more time to assess the situation and respond to council's recommendations for the future of their water supply.

The meeting of residents organised by council staff on 31st August allowed residents to present their case to council.

This is democracy in action, where residents are empowered to be part of the process to assess the final outcome. It may look messy. It could have been done better. But in the end the community will be involved as part of the decision making process.

Cr David Yarnall  
The Channon

## Notices

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### Retail Space Available

Looking for designers or jewellery makers to share shop space in Nimbin. Phone Judy 6689-0136.

### Flea Market

The Bush Theatre is having a monthly Flea Market, selling used goods, on the last Saturday of each month (next one will be Sept 24), 10am to 3pm, rain, hail or shine! Tables are available for those interested. Phone 6689-1111.

### Teeth wanted (human)

Getting dentures, or just an odd extraction? Let us be your tooth fairy. We want discarded rotten human teeth for a sugarart project. Donate a bit of your old smile to the Museum. Post teeth to Nimbin Museum NSW 2480.

## Groups

### Calling all singers

Please join me for an interactive vocal expression session at the Uki Hall on the eve of the September full moon, Monday 12th September, 7-9pm. An auspicious time to be expressing sound!

No singing experience required. Please bring some drinking water and a cushion to sit on if you like. Cost will be \$20 for the waged/abundant, or \$15/\$10 concession. (don't want anyone to miss out 'cause of the dollar!)

Please feel free to pass on to everyone who you think would like to join in. See you a tad before 7pm.

In love and Song – Sue, Kitnkaboodle Productions, Mothership Music Retreat.

### Wildlife Carers Needed

Are you interested in rescuing or caring for wildlife? WIRES need more wildlife volunteers in all parts of the Northern Rivers.

The next WIRES training weekend will be held the weekend of September 17th and 18th at Southern Cross University, Lismore. This 2-day course will qualify you to become a member of WIRES and teach you how to safely rescue and provide emergency care for injured and orphaned native wildlife.

Get involved. Join WIRES. Call 6628-1898 or visit our website at [www.wiresnr.org](http://www.wiresnr.org)

### Spring Arts Exhibition

The Nimbin School of Arts is inviting Nimbin artists to register for the annual Spring Arts Exhibition, which will be open daily at Nimbin Hall during the busy Spring school holidays from Saturday 24th September to Sunday 9th October.

Apart from the 'bay' areas booked by various artists, there will also be displays throughout the main auditorium, the foyer and the stage and backstage studio.

The exhibition annually features a vast array of fine arts, sculpture, ceramics, photography, woodwork and installation art, attracting thousands of viewers and potential buyers.

Registration forms are available at Perceptio bookshop at Nimbin Hall – for any enquiries, phone 6689-1577.

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## Next Market

### 11th Sept

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## Open letter on Zorbing

Nimbin's landscape, alternative lifestyle, beauty, serenity and community spirit are some of the reasons many people are drawn to this area – and it's for these very reasons residents are opposing the proposed Zorb theme park on Blade Rd.

We all share a passion to protect wildlife and habitat, and encourage a community that is actively involved in its future.

The Zorbing site would be an ugly blight on the landscape, and is in no way in keeping with ethos of the area. Nimbin still prides itself on the hippie culture of the 70s, which embraced nature and turned its back on a life of consumerism.

I think people here still identify with that way of life and all that goes with it. Other Zorb or Ozball attractions are situated near attractions like go-kart tracks, not residential dwellings in rural settings.

I recently attended the Nimbin community forum/workshop on the Community Sustainability Plan and was encouraged by the dynamic involvement of the people who attended.

I noted the developer's absence.

The type of development suggested for Blade Rd is not in keeping with the nature of the community. We need to foster tourism that reflects the values, skills and talents of this unique region.

A more sustainable tourism industry would bring in much-needed financial benefits, which would serve to reach a wider spectrum of the community, and offer opportunities to showcase the creative residents who share a vision of an ecologically sustainable future for all.

I know not everyone in the

community shares our view on the development, but I urge people to carefully consider the consequences of allowing this sort of development to be approved.

It would set a precedent – do we really want Nimbin to become a tourist attraction in that sense?

The developer wants the community to believe that this will bring employment to the locals but it would make much better business sense to utilise the cheaper and ready supply of backpackers at his disposal. This is after all a business venture.

The developer has said he is working with the residents to overcome any concerns – yet he has not introduced himself or spoken with us. He was invited to one residents home to discuss the development and sat in silence when they raised their concerns.

This is hardly the action of someone who is concerned about the impacts his proposal would have on the local community.

This is in no way an attack on the developer, but we feel very distressed by this whole process and it has been an uninvited and unwelcome intrusion in our lives.

We have been advised by the council that garbage collection is not available to the residents of Blade Road because the road is not fit for trucks – yet it is proposed to send busloads of tourists up and down the road daily to visit the site, not to mention the heavy vehicles needed in the construction. The proponent claims he will upgrade the road, but only once the development is up and running and subject to his financial ability.

Blade Road is a quiet lane lined with beautiful old gum trees that have already been spray painted with marks of



their destruction should this be approved. More wildlife habitat destroyed to make way for the development.

I urge any in the local community that share our views in opposing this development to make their voices heard. If this is allowed, what will be next?

Katie Purcell

## Community living: where's the love?

It is apparent to some of us that there is a great deal of hypocrisy, inequity and a general sense of dissatisfaction amongst people living on communities.

The idea of community living conjures up ideas of great lifestyles, a sense of goodwill, care, equity, collective practices; but where is the love?

The first thing to go in community dwellers is sense of humour, and then goes freedom of speech, with other liberties clawed from the individual until everyone abides by the "democracy" that is instilled in such communities.

Freedom of speech and liberty are curbed by false allegations and accusations, highlighting the "wrongdoers" and publicly naming them – name then shame, then spread the word. These are usually widely published via documentation, the internet, email and any other form of public display. Even when opinions are made in jest. Although we may believe in the community living model, they are not principalities separate from the rest of the country.

The problem is, very few really stand up against injustices within a community. The silent majority are usually just that, silent.

A surprising amount of time and effort goes into pillorying

and making sure people are well and truly put in their place; it is extensive and exhausting. And sometimes it goes on for years. More important things warrant the energy expended on these public humiliations. I think the word for this type of behaviour is bullying.

There certainly is safety in numbers, and politically it is always going to be a numbers game, but giving up one's own liberty for the sake of a few non-believers is just not worth it.

I leave you with this appropriate quote: "Any people that would give up Liberty for a little temporary safety deserve neither liberty nor safety." – Benjamin Franklin

Name and address supplied

## Senseless Census

I was recently interrupted during my morning meditation by a loud and obnoxious banging on my front door. Ignoring the distraction as one would the passing of clouds on a summer's day, I waited for it to pass. Ah census time, I thought to myself when I eventually bent down to examine the contents under the door. Whatever, I thought as I tossed it into the bin. I had never completed one before and didn't intend to start now.

A few days later there came another knock at the door and another self-righteous, subservient puppet waving an orange envelope in my face. "I'm here to collect your census," he said. "Funny about that," I told him, "because the information you require for that census is of a somewhat personal nature and not the kind you'd expect would help with building the roads and educating the kids and the like. I mean, does the knowledge of one's religion really make for better

judgement on the allocation of public funds, or make a nation more culturally sensitive? It already took us 200 years to acknowledge the black history of this country.

"Oh no, it's just a statistic," the man retorted, dripping in self-importance and swollen with his new found purpose of prying. "Then why does it ask for my personal details?" How can it be just a statistic if it's not anonymous? I stopped to consider the psychology behind this tactic. Aren't we obscuring the data we collect by not making it anonymous? Wouldn't it be just basic human behaviour to withhold any information that was in any way incriminating or detrimental to one's livelihood, family or future? Remove the identity and any fear of government reprisal would also be removed and people would be more likely to give real answers instead of false ones. Fear around say, making those extra few dollars on the side to get by, or letting the single mother move into the little shack down the back of the creek... etc. If the census was collecting anonymous data, one would be far more likely to be open about such things, and with this fresh flow of information we could actually begin to gather some real statistics.

By now I realise that to even question these things makes me look like some kind of paranoid trouble-maker, and this is exactly what the next census official who arrives at my door is quick to tell me. So much for open and intelligent public debate in this country. This government official, even more dangerously swollen with pride than the last, arrives to play out his hand in the orders from a long chain of commandments far beyond his sight, his pants ironed to a tell-tale crisp, shirt fastidiously tucked, clip-board and pen in hand, his balding head jutting out from behind a massive set of fat rimmed glasses.

"I hear you're refusing to do the census." "Well yeah," I say. He then tells me it's mandatory and gives me the relevant information to back it up. (More pamphlets to compost). He tells me, "I don't know what you're so paranoid about mate! Everyone else around here have filled it out without question." Except from what I've been hearing

I know this isn't true. There were plenty of people around with questions, and plenty more giving false or misleading information.

So he goes on to tell me it's just like registering a car. You have to do it to drive. Oh OK, I think to myself, because I'm alive I have to fill out his form. "I get it" I say, "So I don't have a choice right?" "That's right. It's compulsory." "But I choose whether or not I drive a car, so it's not really like registering a car then," I say and stare at him intriguingly. (His analogy did seem to have a hole in it). Looking even more angry and annoyed now, he goes on to tell me, "I hope you know you've just red flagged yourself mate!" (At least we're still mates I thought). "We'll be having a good close look!" Good I thought, look closely and listen hard and you might learn something.

It seemed unbelievable to me that here was this guy who can come up to my door, make assumptions about my character, attempt to make me look isolated and paranoid about my stance on the census, threaten me with a red flag (whatever that means) and then... wait for it, here comes the punchline... bark at me "And if you don't fill out this form we will fine you a hundred and ten dollars for every day past the due date and fine you five hundred dollars for any false information!" When I then snarled "And if I refuse to pay?" he had answered with a glint of delight in his eye from the prospect of me being punished, "Then you will be prosecuted and dealt with by the courts."

Cazy, I think to myself. First it's "Here fill out this form so we can help meet your needs," and then "But if you don't we will financially cripple you. That is, if they know who to address the fine to. They knew my first name thanks to a friendly neighbour, but other than that I can only guess that's what the red flag was for. To whip you into submission.

Although no doubt this is just another empty threat on behalf of the government, an "information mining operation" to gain access to information they would otherwise not be able to legally obtain.

Name and address withheld by request

## About Us

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**Next deadline:** Wednesday 28th Sept ember  
**Email:** [nimbin.goodtimes@gmail.com](mailto:nimbin.goodtimes@gmail.com) or put stuff in our pigeonhole at the Nimbin Community Centre.  
 Please limit contributions to 600 words or less.

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# Janelle's Page

by Janelle Saffin, MP

## The continuing debate on Coal Seam Gas

There is a growing interest in the issue of Coal Seam Gas exploration, and I am on the record supporting a moratorium on the mining until there is proper research into any possible risks to our water.

The regulation of coal seam gas exploration and exploitation on farmland is a matter for state governments and I welcome the establishment of a NSW State Parliamentary Inquiry into Coal Seam Gas mining. The inquiry will include hearings and site visits in the Northern Rivers region in September.

In Parliament in August, I met with two representatives of the Australian Petroleum Production and Exploration Association (APPEA), Rick Wilkinson, the chief operation officer for eastern Australia, and Communications Director Michael Bradley and we discussed the following issues:

- The state based legal framework

- that permits gas extraction
- The need for changes to state laws and practices and gas companies' protocols regarding the rights of farmers
- The limited Federal area of operation under the Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999 (EPBC).
- The challenge of shared use of land between mining and agriculture.
- The uncertainty because of the dearth of research on the impacts of coal seam gas mining on water
- The differences between shale gas and CSG exploration
- The need for the gas companies to be clear with the community about what they do and don't do, and what they know and don't know.

This is an issue that has caught the community by surprise, and where the legal frameworks lag behind community expectations.

### WetlandCare Australia

WetlandCare Australia has just celebrated 20 years of achievements, and I was delighted to be on hand



WetlandCare celebrates 20 years

to cut the celebratory cake. The Chair of the Board, Adelaide-based David O'Sullivan and Deputy Chair Alison Crook were in Ballina for the celebrations. Congratulations to the dynamic Operations Manager, Nicci Carter, CEO Ben Copeman and all their WetlandCare colleagues and volunteers.

This national organisations achievements over 20 years include completing hundreds of wetland

restorations projects, supporting more than 16000 wetland volunteers, and the conservation and restoration of more than 175,000 hectares of Australia's wetland ecosystems.

When I was elected in 2007 I decided that I would throw my support behind two key environmental groups, the Ballina-based WetlandCare Australia and Landcare Australia, two organisations with strong

community engagement.

This year I launched WetlandCare Australia's Coastal 20 Wetland project, which received \$2.5 million in funding under the Australian Government's Caring for Country program for the restoration of 20 iconic east coast wetlands.

At the gathering I strongly supported Ballina Mayor Phil Silver's request that WetlandCare Australia get involved in the issue of cleaning up the Richmond River, and discussions are now going ahead.

The annual WetlandCare Australia National Art and Photography Competition is now open, with categories for children, teenagers and adults and more than \$10,000 in prizes. This is a wonderful way to engage schoolchildren and artists from communities across Australia on the beauty and importance of our wetlands.

Entries close on Friday December 2, 2011 and information is available at [www.wetlandcare.com.au](http://www.wetlandcare.com.au)

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

## Modanville Public School BER opening

Local MP Justine Elliot official opened the new classroom, administration, and library facilities at Modanville Public School built as part of the Australian Government's Building the Education Revolution (BER) on 4th August 2011.

Modanville Public School received \$925,000 under the National School Pride (NSP) program and Primary Schools for the 21st Century (P21) elements of the BER.

The BER is a key element of the Australian Government's \$42 billion Nation Building – Economic Stimulus Plan to support jobs, stimulate local economies and invest in important infrastructure for the long term.

Justine congratulated Modanville Public School on their new facilities.

"It was tremendous to celebrate the opening of the new classroom, administration, and library facilities and to witness first hand, the benefits this is providing to the students and staff here at Modanville Public School and the local community.

"It has been fantastic to see the whole community working together to deliver these important projects. Delivering these projects is giving our excellent dedicated teachers and students in our local schools the 21st Century facilities they so richly deserve," Justine said.

The electorate of Richmond has received more than \$115 million for 205 projects in 90 local schools through the Building the Education Revolution.

Justine said the new facilities are not only a benefit to the school they are supporting stronger social networks and community cohesion.

This funding is part of the more than



Jenny Dowell, Connor Anderson and Justine Elliot at the Nimbin Skate Park opening

\$1 billion that Justine Elliot has delivered for local roads, schools, health and community resources.

### Nimbin Skate Park Opens

On 12th August Justine Elliot joined with Lismore City Council Mayor Jenny Dowell for the official opening of the Nimbin Skate Park.

Lismore City Council has received \$449,000 from the Gillard Government's Regional and Local Infrastructure Program to provide for the construction of the Nimbin Skate Park.

"The funding for the Nimbin Skate Park was delivered from the more than \$1 billion Regional and Local Community Infrastructure Program – the largest one off investment in local infrastructure in Australia's history," Justine said.

Member for Richmond  
107 Minjungbal Drive  
Tweed Heads South  
Phone 1300-720-675

## Francesco Paolo Cassiano

5th February 1927 – 30th July 2011



Francesco Cassiano came to Australia from Italy with his wife Guissepina (Josephine, nee Tronconi).

After some 25 years living in Sydney, they arrived in Nimbin with their four high-spirited daughters, Mariella, Elena (Helen), Adriana (deceased) and Angela, and opened La Trattoria, which became a much-loved landmark in the village.

Josephine learnt the art of cooking – La Cuiccina Italiana – from her parents. Josephine's prayer was "Please give me the opportunity to do my utmost with the gift I have been given." As we know, her wish was granted.

Franco's death after a long illness came only five weeks after Josephine departed

this life on 25th June, aged 75.

Together, Josephine and Franco added a highly cultured culinary dimension to the Rainbow Region, which is their great legacy.

Words taken from a eulogy by family friend Mogens.



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# From the Mayor's desk

by Jenny Dowell  
Jenny.Dowell@lismore.nsw.gov.au

## Welcome to Spring!

The recent week of wet weather has helped the brown frost-affected paddocks to return to their natural green and contributed to a burst of new growth in our flowering plants. The cherry blossom tree planted to honour our Sister City Relationship with Yamato Takada is in full pink blossom and we all feel the awakening from our relatively mild winter.

## Blue Knob Road

Driving on Blue Knob Rd recently, I was delighted to see 'Roadwork' signs in place and ribbons hanging from power lines in readiness for major works on the worst sections. The work is expected to take some time so drivers will need to allow extra time for their trips but the finished work will be much appreciated. It's also great to see that both the Southwell and Cullen Bridges and the associated roadworks are

nearing completion. These new concrete bridges may not have the charm of the timber ones they replace but with a life of up to 100 years, the maintenance and replacement costs are greatly reduced. Council has now replaced all its timber bridges under a 50:50 funding arrangement with the State Government- just in time for these funding arrangements to cease.

## Gungas Rd Water

Understandably, some of the 79 households on Gungas Road with connections to the water supply from the Gungas Road Weir have been concerned that changes to the state drinking water standards are expected to result in the water they drink being declared not-potable. On August 31, it was pleasing to see a room full of people gather at the Nimbin Bowlo to hear the background to the current situation and to hear the course Council intends to take to work with residents and find



solutions. Fortunately new information from the NSW Office of Water and NSW Health has allayed the need for a solution to be found before the start of the new year. Instead, Council staff will work with all Nimbin residents to examine longer term solutions and, in the interim, undertake an increased testing regime of the water going to these 79 properties. In accordance with current practice, Council will issue advice notices if the water testing indicates a potential health concern. It was very pleasing to hear the willingness of residents to work with Council and in

turn, Council has committed to an improved process of community engagement on the matter. Thank you all!

## Nimbin Events

For a village of modest size, Nimbin knows how to put on some fantastic community events. In my column this month, I'd like to highlight just a few but before that, I'd like to congratulate the Nimbin Visitor Information Centre for taking out Gold for the region's Tourism Awards held in Grafton last month. Andrew and his staff love promoting Nimbin and all it has to offer to the 140,000 visitors who come to the village each year. How about calling in to congratulate them and wish them well for the State Awards in November.

## Nimbin Fun Run

It was wonderful to see all the runners or walkers setting off on the second Annual Nimbin Fun Run on the last Sunday of August. Fortunately the rain of Saturday stayed away and everyone could enjoy the sun. Some people were not so confident- I spied several

gumboots and even a pair of flippers among the colourful crowd!

## Blue Moon Cabaret

The Blue Moon Cabaret is a fantastic event that showcases the talented locals who live amongst us. Ron and I delight in inviting some Lismore friends to join a table and all are keen to tell us that they want to be invited again. Thanks David Hallett for bringing these great cabarets to us.

## Nimbin Show

At the end of September, the Nimbin Show will showcase the changing face of agriculture in the surrounding countryside. Dairy cows, horses and vegetables now combine with goats, cheeses, organic Asian greens and hemp products to give a snapshot of the richness of the community. I admit to being drawn to the cakes, preserves and handcrafts- especially those submitted by local school students. Well done to the A&I Society for a top show!

## Sample and Country Collections

Nimbin businesses also feature in the current



issues of these magazines. Country Collections has a large feature on the Nimbin Candle Factory and Sample, the North Coast food magazine, has a double page on Nimbin Valley Dairy.

## Women in Local Government

I will be hosting an information session on Thursday September 8 (5-7pm) for women considering standing for Council elections next year. If you have an interest in how Council operates, the process of nominating and how to run a successful campaign, please give me a call on 0402-651-394 or send me an email [jenny.dowell@lismore.nsw.gov.au](mailto:jenny.dowell@lismore.nsw.gov.au) for catering purposes. I look forward to seeing lots of women there. We can only get more women on our Councils if more women nominate.

# Simon says...

by Simon Clough  
Deputy mayor of Lismore

Nimbin Skate Park is one of my favourite Council projects. It came in on budget, it looks great and most importantly Nimbin's young people and the community as a whole seem to love it!

It is worth reflecting for a moment that it has been a very long road getting there. There have been people in the community working on this project for 13 years. My congratulations to those people who have worked so tirelessly. Lismore Councillors voted unanimously for the project, indicating just how important it was to the Councillors. Thanks also are due to the Federal Government for the stimulus funding. Council certainly couldn't have done it without that funding.

I rode my bike to and from Nimbin; nearly two and a half hours for those wishing to try. My thanks go to Roa Dart for all his



helpful pothole art, especially important for cyclists. I had to explain to many people at the official opening of the skatepark that my bike was not suitable for skatepark stunts (nor just quietly was its rider).

Council held a meeting for those affected by the upcoming changes in the Australian Drinking Water Standards on 31st August. Most of those affected live on or near Gungas Road. The

changes to the Australian Standards will mean that the water supplied to 79 households will no longer be useable for drinking or cooking, though the standard of water would be unchanged.

The meeting was very constructive with Council staff putting all the information on the table and stating that there was now time and money for Council to look at long term solutions. The 50 - 60 residents at the meeting responded positively to Council's openness. Many suggestions about how the water situation could be improved were made.

Council had previously sent out letters setting down the options available to those affected by the change in standards and asking for decisions to be made quickly. It would have been so much better to start off the process of consultation with a meeting and conversation, positively engaging the community from the start.

At the last Council meeting my motion to develop a new "Sale of Land for Unpaid Rates Policy" was accepted. The proposed policy should provide more safeguards for disadvantaged people.

Hopefully this means we won't have a repeat of a disability pensioner having her home sold over a \$16,000 debt.

I participated in the Community Economic Transition Forum on Saturday 20th August. It was a very dynamic and enthusiastic event with about 240 people contributing. I'm hopeful that there will be lots of follow up projects. I remember the 2009 meeting in Nimbin which led to the highly successful solar farm project.

Thinking of successful projects I've just caught up with my motion to change Lismore's light bulbs (street lights) to energy-efficient lighting. As a representative of the mini "Our Sustainable Future Party" this is a project close to my heart. It seems that Essential Energy (formerly Country Energy) will be installing the new lights early next year rather than this month as arranged. Disappointing, as Council is expecting to save nearly \$300,000 and almost 1,000 tonnes of carbon dioxide emissions a year. The delay will cost us \$100,000 and 333 tonnes of emissions.

Hopefully there will be no further delays.

The draft Local Environment Plan is approaching that point where it will be put on public exhibition again. After extensive community consultation there have been some significant changes in the plan, especially the substantial reduction in the RU2 zone (Rural landscape) and its replacement with RU1 (rural) zone. At the same time the Flood Plain Management Committee which I chair is about to put out the new draft Flood Plain Management Plan for public comment.

Spring is definitely on its

way. I have been swooped by magpies since late July (and they reckon climate change doesn't exist). I can hardly get on my bike now without hearing the clacking of beaks and the flapping of wings sending surges of adrenaline through my body as I speed up and duck (oh dear) to avoid the winged assassins.

Wishing you all a wonderful and productive spring.

Contact Simon at [simonclough@internode.on.net](mailto:simonclough@internode.on.net) or phone 6624-2894 or 0428-886-217. You can also follow the adventures of a local Councillor on facebook at: [www.facebook.com/SimonDClough](http://www.facebook.com/SimonDClough)

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# The other September 11

by Warwick Fry

North Americans will be remembering this September 11 as the tenth anniversary of the Fall of the Twin Towers. It is an event indelibly and ineluctably branded onto the US psyche, and by extension, the consciousness of the rest of the world.

Given US hegemony of the planet it has affected us all in its ripple effect. It was the event which massaged the 'willing' alliance to support and endorse the invasion of Iraq. It was the event that fast-tracked the legitimisation of torture. Australia and Britain and Canada have all seen the clawback of hard won civil liberties as our respective governments tried to emulate the US' Patriot Act. In Australia we have seen unprecedented and unnecessary extensions to the powers of ASIO in the name of a 'War on Terror'. We have seen innocent Australian citizens gaoled and tortured with no apology.

To Latin Americans there is an ironic and surreal symmetry in all of this.



September 11 is also the 38th anniversary of the violent coup in Chile when the democratically elected government of Salvador Allende was overthrown by a military Junta, encouraged by US support and approval. In the week following the coup over three thousand (some say five thousand) supporters of Allende were killed or 'disappeared' by the military junta in an attempt to purge and terrorise supporters of the Allende government ... roughly the same number who died in the Fall of the Towers in the US.

There are poignant images and videos (on YouTube) of the US

supplied jet planes firing rockets into the Presidential Palace, where Allende (pictured below) died just after he made an historic speech to the few remaining independent radio stations. An eerie precursor of the smoking aeroplane-stricken Twin Towers of New York.

A vision of collapse unwillingly accepted.

Thousands more suffered the fate of those three thousand and more herded, tortured and massacred in the Santiago Stadium, over the twenty and more years of the regime. The coup leader and titular President of Chile for those twenty years, Augusto Pinochet was



eventually tried and convicted for war crimes - but only on his death bed, and after years of support and legal protection, and expressions of admiration from the likes of Maggie Thatcher and Henry Kissinger. The State Security organisations ruled Chile during those decades.

One could be forgiven for thinking that this is history and it's time to move on. But is it? By a bizarre twist of fate (?), the Guatemalan elections this year are to be held on September 11.

Guatemala has had a history of coups since 1954 when a progressive democratic government was displaced by a US sponsored Guatemalan General. The US' Man secured the unused land that the US based United Fruit Company thought was being unfairly taken away from them in a (very modest) agrarian land reform program initiated by the democratically elected government. Guatemala thereafter was ruled

by a series of US backed military Juntas until the mid-1990s.

Is it insult, injury, or further challenge? The leading contender for the Presidency of Guatemala this year is a former Guatemalan General, a Graduate from the US School of Americas (like many of the Latin American military elite), and former head of the notorious G2 Guatemalan Intelligence division. He was responsible for the 'disappearance', interrogation, kidnapping, torture and assassination of at least three thousand Guatemalans during the course of the counterinsurgency war of the 1980s. This was the 'dirty war' (US expression) during which 200,000 Guatemalans - mostly ethnic Mayan indigenous people - were massacred.

His name is Otto Perez Molina. He is campaigning on 'Law and Order'.

Otto Perez Molina was caught on video by a very young Alan Nairn, in the early eighties. Molina is seen as a youthful graduate fresh from his training in the School of Americas. At the time he had the rank of Major. In the interview he nonchalantly displays the mutilated corpses of 'guerrilla suspects' and explains to Alan Nairn earnestly that 'you have to remove the people among whom the guerrillas move'. He was, at the time, one of the main military operatives in the regions in Guatemala where most of the grossest documented massacres were perpetrated.

Otto is now the object of a law case alleging war crimes and human rights violations, before the UN. One of the Human Rights lawyers involved (Jennifer Harbury) was married to one of Molina's victims, and has after twenty years accrued evidence of CIA complicity in the direction of Guatemalan torture sessions under Molina's watch.

This however, does not seem to have affected Otto Molinez' (pictured above) Presidential aspirations. He appears to have the seal of approval from Washington, and there are few other serious contenders. Most of the indigenous Mayan population are disenfranchised anyway.

Another September 11 to watch for.

(Note: Community Radio 2Nim-FM had an exclusive interview with Jennifer Harbury which can be heard on podcast at <http://vensol.blogspot.com/2011/08/guatemalan-elections-death-squad.html>)

## Pilger in Byron

by Sue Stock

John Pilger called for nationhood to be given back to Aboriginal people and more independence from the United States in his keynote address at the recent Byron Writers Festival.

Pilger, in conversation with journalist Phillip Adams, said: "If this is going to be an independent country, and this is not an independent country, a socially and culturally proud society ... two things have got to happen.

"First, nationhood has to be given back to the first Australians. The intervention is the old land grab. This is apartheid. Australians need to start to relate in a decent way to the first Australians. Second, we need to start speaking as a nation, not as a satellite state of the US."

He bemoaned Australia's "obsequious approach" to the US, which needs to change, citing Wikileaks disclosures that the US wants to make Australia a major US base.

Successive administrations in the US have become more extreme since Nixon onwards, and there is essentially a military government in the US, he said. "The great shift in in the US has been the bringing of the Pentagon into the centre of government. The State Department now has very little power."

"With Libya, it is the same old story," Pilger said, arguing there were serious geopolitical reasons for the attacks on Libya, due to the fact that back in 2007 Gaddafi refused, and continued to refuse, to privatise Libya's oil and was discussing oil exports with China and Russia. The state was going to hang on to the biggest oil supply in Africa. Gaddafi

was dictating terms to the international oil companies that were unacceptable to them.

He believes the foreign powers have "contaminated" parts of the change in Libya that were a genuine uprising. "The attacks had nothing to do with human rights. Human rights is a cover for an attack on another country."

Pilger railed against the issue of Australia's transport of refugees to Malaysia. "This disgusting arrangement ... is the most base political behaviour," he said.

The fear of refugees has been manipulated to produce fear, Pilger said. "Fear can run like a bushfire through countries" as in Germany in the '30s where fear and prejudice were turned into a monster.

He said that the "Islamophobia" which gripped countries like Norway was similar to the build-up of feeling against the Jews in the 1930s and was extremely dangerous both here and in Europe. Pilger stated that the mainstream media in Australia has not recognised that the views of people like Keith Windschuttle and Archbishop Pell are extremist.

Pilger said that In Australia, we have also moved to the right in politics and that "you couldn't run a cigarette paper between the major parties in terms of difference".

Howard's views on race were "not all that different" to those of Pauline Hanson. "He absorbed Pauline Hanson," he said, claiming "the ALP has incorporated 70% of One Nation's views into their policies - the Liberals 80% and the National Party 90%."

There was loud applause often from the large crowd spilling out from every opening of the marquee, and in particular in support of Julian



Assange and Wikileaks, where the conservative-looking crowd all stood in support and cheered loudly. Adams asked Pilger, 'Do you think the Byron Bay audience is a bit left?'

Pilger put the response down to the 'common decency' of the audience. "Audiences all over the country have given the same response to Julian Assange. His government has let him down so appallingly," he said.

Phillip Adams pointed out that he, John Pilger and John Howard were born in the same year and reckoned Pilger looked the youngest. Long may it be so.

Listen to the audio of this keynote address at: <http://www.abc.net.au/local/audio/2011/08/09/3289375.htm?site=northcoast&microsite=byronwritersfestival&section=latest&date=%28none%29>

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## Tony's treaty bid



The Big Joint outside Parliament House

Tony Bower and his Treaty Convoy supporting Mullaways Medical Cannabis recently set off from the Nimbin HEMP Embassy, bound for NSW Parliament House.

Tony has been writing to various government departments for more than two years trying to get an application to grow and research his Cleverman medicine. They banked his \$1600 application deposit but now won't talk to him.

Hence the convoy.

Tony insists on giving away his tincture free of charge, but with 300 patients he can't keep up to their needs.

The group mustered more cars than the truckies' Convoy of No Confidence

on their way to Canberra at the same time.

There were several smoko stops on the first leg, and a convoy member said Tony's 1977 Toyota bus needed every one of them.

On the Woolgoolga hills the convoy grew to 200 vehicles at times, and arrived at Tony's camp on the river near Kempsey after dark to meet more supporters.

Thirty people took part in the march to the front of Parliament House, many wearing Polite shirts, led by Phil on the didge and Tony Bower with his Treaty, all pushed along by the Giant Joint.

Several Green MPs came down for the occasion and John Kaye promised to write

to the Health Minister.

"Yeah, but how come you've ignored us 'til now?" Tony asked, throwing Dr John for just a moment, but he said he would ask "for the hysteria around cannabis to be dropped", and call for the Health Department to assess whether cannabis has health benefits.

Green MP Jan Barham also met Tony and expressed

her support for his cause.

Several of Tony's patients turned up for the protest. Matt from Melbourne has Crohn's Disease, and a letter from his doctor supporting Tony's tinctures' efficacy. Matt said they had tried everything, including chemotherapy, for his condition.

Since discovering the Mullaway tincture last June, his life has been transformed, with his pain, anxiety and insomnia relieved.

There were others with HIV, glaucoma and cancer patients who found the tincture kept their nausea from chemo at bay in a way nothing else could.

Tony makes two different tinctures from his "Cleverman" cannabis strain developed for its anti-inflammatory properties. It is used in tiny amounts and doesn't cause intoxication.

Tony believes he could make enough medicine for two million people.

Read more at [www.mullawaysmedicalcannabis.com.au](http://www.mullawaysmedicalcannabis.com.au)



John Kaye addresses the media scrum in Macquarie Street

## Academic backs medical cannabis

Graham Irvine, a Doctor of Philosophy from the Southern Cross University's School of Law and Justice, says there are good reasons why pharmaceutical cannabis should be made available.

After five years of research, he estimates that thousands of patients with multiple sclerosis, motor neuron disease, cancer and HIV/AIDS could be benefiting by taking medicinal grade medicinal cannabis.

Dr Irvine's studies found a large body of clinical evidence in the scientific literature showing there were significant improvements in patients treated with medicinal cannabis.

Countries including Germany, Holland, Portugal and Spain have already legalised medicinal cannabis, and Dr Irvine believes it is only a matter of time before Australian governments recognise its value, with growing majority support for legalisation from health professionals and public opinion surveys.

Until legalisation, patients who have discovered the value of medicinal cannabis for themselves will be forced to obtain their medicine on the black market, with all of the dangers this brings.

### Coffins that won't cost the earth

Nimbin's Hemp Embassy has had lots of interest in its prototype hemp coffin, made from structural board produced in Germany.

Plain coffins, with hemp rope handles, can be ordered from \$600, or can be custom decorated by Nimbin artists at extra cost.

Thorsten Jones' photo (right) shows Northern Star photographer Jacklyn Wagner taking down the details of "a Nimbin local" for their page 3 story.



## STREET SHUFFLE

Journal of the North Coast's longest serving covert

by Undacuvva

### Hoodies Down Unda

The Unda Brass, drinking vodka in the airport lounge and dressed like fat rich tourists from Florida, were waiting for me when I flew in from Washington, and we have agreed to disagree. I'd been asleep for eight deep hours thanks to the LA Dispensary lollies and they took me by surprise, but we soon undastood each other. I know too much and so do they.

I get to keep the fortnightly cheques (which Pipe claims as the Tribe's now!) but they leave me alone in exchange for "certain favors". Like where the good weed is, and

any new big movers. Little chance of that in the land of unorganised crime I said, but that's just what fascinates them.

Almost a free man I mused, but the very next day the emergency buzzer grafted in my armpit goes off and being a CDE (Covert Drug Expert) I was called to talk to London for hours in a GFDMPH (Global Forces Decision Making Phone Hookup).

Nimbin is legendary in the Force computer, in the top five all over the place and more than any other beat. It's all stats per square metre and the tiny village is unique. The most pot busts, and with the least related violence, the most watched

on camera (with London), the most disability pensions, the most "loose screws and unpredictable nuts" (who invents these categories?) and the most hoodies per head in a country village!

I can tell you Undacuva's own the hoodie, we invented it. I personally never travel without one. It took all my training to not react when someone suggested it be outlawed. They did however decide every hoodie sold from now on is to be tracked after refusing the call for cutting off "reasonably suspicious" hoodies on the spot!

How do we keep the violence down was the subject of the 50 way phone call. My turn took ages and followed endless painful



suggestions better suited to movie scripts. From hard labor to amputations, on and on they went, until I heard, "Befany from Ningin Orstaya."

My jaw dropped and the words ran out like a dog let off the chain after weeks tied up. I kept thinking of Pipe as I heard myself say, "In a word gentleman, weed."

I swear the phone got physically colder. "Nimbin always has weed available and we have to make sure of it, despite the law. There'd be a riot if we took it all, no kidding. Street agro is dealt with by the bong. I watch the youth medicate each other

all the time. 'Jim is stressin out is missus cun afford the dentist make im a billy will ya Sam Dingo'll chuck in he's got good bud dis mornin'."

"Anyone stressed, someone chops for them. Sharing weed when it's needed goes without saying. You hammer the weed and the real hammer appears. Leave the dreamy weed alone. I'd even let 'em grow their own, if that's what they want." I tried to sound tough, detached.

"Your trouble started with the shot crack dealer, right? If he could grow his own weed he wouldn't have been there. Make peace not war. Or do you really want it? We might all be out of a job."

Someone laughed nervously and it seemed a long silence until a solitary cop spoke. "Clive from Birmingham. He's right you know. If the Moroccan is in town everyone chills. Whenever we bust him we have trouble."

The Yanks started arguing then, Feds against the State who love the medical dispensaries rolling out across the country and emptying the jails. Then someone from Russia starting raving like a lunatic about corruption and my short moment on the Global Force Stage was gone.

Back home, lost within the new streams of homeless and helpless on Cullen Street I've had a hassle free month otherwise with the ADHD kid on the back foot, having pretty much fished out the pond.

Pipes mushroom soup tipped me upside down last full moon. It's hard enough to remember who you are anyway without a death and rebirth thrown in. Though I am finding it's easier than ever to blend in now on the street, and without even trying. Bless the hippies for they have shown me the truth. But can I live with it, and what do I do now?

**Nimbin HEMP Embassy**

NIMBIN CANNABIS LAW REFORM RALLY and **MardiGrass**, the annual gathering on the first weekend of MAY.

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## Cool duo stun Kyogle



by Kym Watling  
Photo: Brett Hamlyn

**Gig review: Lucie Thorne and Hamish Stuart at Kyogle Showground**

Kyogle locals and out-of-towners in the know were treated to an ethereal evening of musicianship and community when Lucie Thorne and Hamish Stuart kicked off their *Bonfires in Silver City* tour at the Kyogle Showground.

Thorne's melodic and

rhythmic electric guitar floated through the pavilion, bejewelled by Stuart's jazz-influenced percussion.

The soft huskiness and honest emotion of Lucie's voice resonated with the audience. There was the feeling of having shared something very special.

A visual city-scape design theme by the Village Hall complemented the quality sound production by SCU music student Aaron Duffy.

Local duo *The Loose Tones*, Laurence Graham and Chris Cox, supported.

## KAMS Family Event



Kyogle Acoustic Music Society's final Headline Event for the year is a Family Event featuring the Perch Creek Family Jug Band (pictured) on Saturday 24th September at the Kyogle Showground from 6-9 pm.

This event will be a celebration of the love of music and family. Supporting Perch is the Davies family of Barker's Vale, who have made an enormous contribution to the talent and cultural development of the region with the family-run Kyogle acrobatics group 'Circus Express'. Sons Gareth Bjaaland and Vaughan Davies, better known as the 'Barkers Vale Brothers', have become local favourites.

The evening will also feature a collaboration between members of our local primary school choirs and a diverse range of performers including members of the Kyogle Community Choir, the Landers Family, sisters Courtney and Alex Macdade, ENC Projects with Ethan Reilly and Connor McKenzie, and Kyogle's local tin whistle group.

Kyogle Bazaar patrons will have the opportunity to 'Sing for a Seat' at the dining area to win a free single ticket to the show, or a discount family entry for \$10.

Tickets will be available at the door and will cost \$17 adults / \$13 KAMS members / \$9 youth. Children under 12 enter by gold coin donation. Doors open 5.30pm.



## Jam wid de riddim

ReggaeFest 2011 takes place in East Ballina on 17 and 18 September – a spring weekend of music, culture and vibes at a magical location where the river meets the ocean.

After selling out at a massive one-day program in 2010, ReggaeFest has expanded and relocated to create a full weekend experience of music, family, cinema, global food and craft markets, community and cultural workshops in a waterfront setting.

More than 40 world class acts will be showcased, with artists from Jamaica Jah Mason, Stranger Cole (pictured), England (Deadly Hunta), Africa (Selecta Ras George), New Caledonia, New Zealand and Indonesia as well as some of Australia's best, including King Tide (pictured), from Sydney.

There will be performances by local youth who have been engaged in hip hop workshops, and the winners of the Southern Cross University band competition.

Also featured are free workshops in African dance or Jamaican dancehall, Brazilian Capoeira to the rhythm of traditional instruments, and print-making with the Salt Water Women.

There is riverside camping and accommodation just metres from the festival site, and Kidz Klub providing entertainers, crafts and activities. Tickets cost \$119 (specials available for children and family) available from [www.reggaeFest.com.au](http://www.reggaeFest.com.au) or at Music Bizarre (Lismore) or Truck Stop Skate (Ballina).

## Once in a Blue



The Blue Moon Cabaret will be held at Nimbin Hall on Saturday 10th September.

The Nimbin School of Arts has been presenting Blue Moon Cabarets for more than 20 years. The shows are major fundraisers for the School of Arts, and a grand variety evening of the performance arts.



Ivy Lucille

The Cabaret features acrobatics from Lou Harwood, Li Pawson, React Circus and Tuntable Falls Circus, comedy from Mandy Nolan, piano/singers Ivy Lucille and Merryn Boller, poet Christine Strelan, piano maestro Fred Cole, Sassy Salsa, Biskit & Doug, plus Sheik Yertoush, The Hoochers and poet/MC David Hallett.

Bookings are recommended. The evening is licensed (no BYO) and fully catered by Radical Fairies with dinner and drinks available from 7pm. Tickets and table reservations are at Perceptio bookshop (\$30/\$25 conc.)



Doug & Biskit

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### What's On in September?

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- Saturday Nights – Trivia – 7pm – Cash Jackpot
- Sunday 11th – Rock'n'Roll Bowls Launch – 9am – Sausage sizzle, Live music with Express
- Rock'n'Roll Bowls Every Sunday in Spring
- Courtesy Bus – Phone or book at bar
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## CARDIER AT CONDONG

Singer-songwriter Glenn Cardier plays the Condong Bowls Club at 1pm on 18th September.

He last performed in this area in 2005 when the touring show *Spike Is Back* – a combined live show and screening of the Spike Milligan documentary *I Told You I Was Ill* at the Murwillumbah Regent Cinema.

Cardier had toured extensively with his good mate Spike Milligan in the late 70s and early 80s and contributed songs to the documentary on Spike's life.

Cardier returned to recording with the album *Rattle The Cage*, and has three critically acclaimed studio albums, a live album

and a live DVD to his credit. He brings with him guitarist Rex Goh.

Folk, rock, country, blues, roots, world, rockabilly and comedy music will all be present in a Cardier concert.

Tickets \$18 plus booking fee or \$25 at the door.



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**Tenzin's Tibet, in song**

On Saturday 17th September, the Kaivalya Meru community near Lillian Rock offers a journey to the rooftop of the world with Tibetan musician Tenzin Choegyal, tabla player Shen Flindell and friends, who present Tibet in Songs.

Tenzin is an internationally renowned musician, sharing stages around with world with the likes of Philip Glass, Angelique Kidjo, Taj Mahal and Michael Stipe.

He was born to a nomadic family in south-west Tibet, escaped into Nepal from the Chinese occupation, and was raised in the Tibetan refugee



community in Dharamsala, India.

He draws on his Tibetan roots to create original compositions that uniquely express his cultural lineage.

Tenzin plays traditional dranyen, a stringed instrument, and the lingbu transverse bamboo flute.

Tenzin and tabla player Shen Flindell have shared a musical collaboration for a number of years.

Shen is very active in the thriving Indian music community of Japan. He has released four CDs ranging from Indian classical santoor to Tibetan world fusion.

A special addition to this night is an exhibition of original paintings by local artist Jhana Bowen.

Jhana lived for six years in a Tibetan boarding school in Dharamsala and he observed his mother painting. He was intrigued by her skill and it became clear to him that art and healing would become a primary focus in his life.

Dinner and hot drinks are available from 6.00pm, with music at 7.30pm. Tickets (\$20) are available from Nimbin Organic Shop, Sphinx Rock Café or email: [visionsinharmony@yahoo.com.au](mailto:visionsinharmony@yahoo.com.au)

"Kaivalya Meru" community is located at 3981 Kyogle Road, Lillian Rock, and is a drug, alcohol and smoke-free venue. It is 10 minutes towards Kyogle from Sphinx Café (2.7 kms past the Nimbin turnoff).

## BOWLING FOR NIMBIN

Lawn bowls, a game for old folks who are too decrepit (or sensible) to play golf but not decrepit enough for draughts, right? No! Wrong! At least, not how we play it at the Nimbin Bowlo.

On 11th September we are launching Rock n Roll Bowling. All the fun of social bowls with music, informality and compulsory enjoyment. What more could you ask for?

We'll be putting it on every Sunday morning, but the launch is going to be an extra big deal. Sausage sizzle, rock n roll, fun bowls followed by a band. What band you ask? Well we've booked Express, famous for their gigs around town.

Heard enough to be interested? Well read on. You will need flat soled shoes or bare feet, an open mind, \$5 green fees and a love of having a good time. We will lend you some bowls and someone will show you the ropes (it ain't hard).

That's it! What's holding you back? Be there on Sunday 11th September, Nimbin Bowlo, 9.30am.



Express

## TGIF on Sunday

The Fridays, all the way from Adelaide, are on an East Coast tour, and you can see them for free at Sphinx Rock Café on Sunday 18th September at 1pm.

Kimberly McKenzie (vocals, harmonica and guitar) and Kelly Breuer (vocals and guitar), offer gutsy guitar riffs and quirky lyrics to make every day feel like a Friday.

Influenced by Bonnie Raitt, Cold Chisel and The Waifs, The Fridays put their folk-rock talents forward.

The Fridays have topped the Triple J Unearthed Roots chart, played at Adelaide's Feast, Fuse West and Fringe festivals and have released an EP.



## Sara Tindley on tour



On Saturday 10th September, Mullumbimby's Drill Hall hosts Sara Tindley, one of Australia's best country-roots songwriters, from 7.30pm.

'Time' is the aptly named and long awaited third album from Tindley.

In 2007 her critically acclaimed album 'Lucky the Sun' (produced by Bill Chambers) introduced her honest, funny, tender songs and warm, emotive voice.

Garnering comparisons to Gillian Welch, Lucinda Williams and Kasey Chambers, the album left fans from across the musical spectrum hankering for more. But things like motherhood, deaths and finding a quiet space to write have a way of taking up time.

A family trip to New Orleans "just cracked me open - I bought an old Gibson guitar and I started writing again."

The show costs \$15.

## Jazz Club Notes

### Liora+Two = fun



On Sunday 18th September, the Lismore Jazz Club presents Liora + Two at the Lismore Bowling Club.

Take the smooth, sensitive keyboards of Steve Russell, the dynamic, innovative bass of Thierry Fossemalle and the vibrant and moving vocals of Liora Claff - and you have a magical afternoon of musical collaboration.

From wild Latin rhythms to soft, passionate and moving ballads to sultry, edge-of-your-seat swing, step through the doors of the Lismore Bowling Club onto the world stage.

Liora Claff is a well known figure in the Australian folk scene and in much

demand as a solo performer, fiddler and a member of the popular folk band The Larrikins.

Steve has been playing piano since he was four and is an extraordinary pianist, a sensitive and empathetic accompanist and a talented composer who has been described in print as "Australian jazz at its best".

Thierry Fossemalle is an outstanding electric and double bassist, composer, performer and teacher. Together they form a dynamic trio.

The show is from 2pm to 5pm and admission is \$10 (members) and \$15 (non-members).

## Nimbin Hotel & Backpackers

53 Cullen Street, Nimbin. Ph: 6689-1246

## September Gigs

Thursday 8th  
Friday 9th  
Saturday 10th  
Sunday 11th

**South Coast Blues Revue**  
**Nitestar**  
**Richie Williams**  
**Ian Rowe**

Thursday 15th  
Friday 16th  
Saturday 17th  
Sunday 18th

**Jarrah Thompson**  
**Antibodies plus support**  
**Bevan Spears**  
**Compass Rose**

Thursday 22nd  
Friday 23rd  
Saturday 24th

**Robert Saric**  
**Broadfoot**  
**Beth King & The Hemingway Collective**  
**Surf Report**

Sunday 25th  
Thursday 29th  
Friday 30th  
Saturday Oct 1st  
Sunday Oct 2nd

**TBA**  
**Khanage**  
**Dan Hannaford**  
**Junior Bowles**

Gigs start: Thurs 6pm, Fri 7.30pm, Sat 7pm, Sun 2.30pm

Accommodation • TAB facilities

**Hummingbird Bistro**

Lunch 12-3pm Dinner 6-8pm, Friday 6-8.30pm

## sphinx rock café

3220 Kyogle Rd, Mt Burrell [www.sphinxrockcafe.com](http://www.sphinxrockcafe.com)

### Sunday Gig Guide

#### September 1pm Start

#### 11<sup>th</sup> Loose Tuesday

Listen and love the sounds of progressive folk and rock

#### 18<sup>th</sup> The Fridays

Be prepared for fun blends, gutsy guitar riffs and fab harmonies all the way from Adelaide

#### 25<sup>th</sup> A Little Province

The flavours of world spice, rock punch, folk and a hint of Celtic Roots

#### October 2<sup>nd</sup> Renne Searles

Renee's music is ethereal, romantic, poetic and sometimes cheeky

Licensed cafe with friendly staff, fabulous food, great coffee and excellent vibes.

For more info please contact us

P (02) 6679 7118

E [info@sphinxrockcafe.com](mailto:info@sphinxrockcafe.com)

Find us on Facebook

Sphinx Rock Cafe

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bowling like you've never imagined

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savage rizzle 9 am

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