

# Janelle's Page

by Janelle Saffin, MP

I'm pleased to report that the Federal Government is to legislate to ban gag-clauses in Commonwealth contracts with the not-for-profits (NFP) sector.

I believe in free speech, even if at times, it can be uncomfortable, and our NFP sector must be able to speak out.

In our area the NFP sector contributes significantly to delivering services and improving our community. I want them to be free to put forward whatever views and policy ideas they want to, and not be gagged as part of funding agreements.

A strong, independent and innovative NFP sector is essential for the functioning of our society and good for our way of life. The people who work in this sector as employees and volunteers contribute hugely to our community.

The NFP sector is a key partner in developing and delivering major policy reform and creating opportunities for all Australians.

The past few weeks in Queensland have reminded us of the repressive days of the last Federal Coalition government, when the then Prime



the Coalition that had restricted the sector from engaging in policy and political debate.

And the Labor Government will now legislate to ensure the Commonwealth cannot include gag clauses in contracts with the NFP sector.

Recent gag clauses introduced by the Queensland Coalition

Minister Howard attacked the rights and legitimate role of the NFP sector and diminished its capacity to represent and advocate for its members.

In 2008 the Federal Labor Government removed the gag-clauses imposed by

government will result in a censoring of public debate unlike anything we have seen since the previous Federal Coalition Government, when Prime Minister Howard made gag clauses mandatory in all funding contracts, which also led to significant defunding of community organisations.

We can only hope the O'Farrell Coalition Government doesn't follow the Queensland Government down this track, but given what it is doing to education and health we need to be on guard.

## Super Trawler

It was a great victory for common sense when Parliament passed the Government's legislation to prevent vessels, like the super trawler FV Abel Tasman, from fishing in Australian waters while further scientific assessments are

undertaken.

I was one of the Labor members of Parliament who pushed this issue in Caucus. From day one when I first heard of this rapacious proposal I voiced my opposition to it, to concerned locals, senior ministers and the media.

We were told that this floating fish factory, able to suck in mega catches, was sustainable but I was not convinced that a vessel of this size would operate in a sustainable way. And, who wants a ship that can take in one go what a few vessels would take over time. Common sense prevailed.

Member for Page  
63 Molesworth Street  
Lismore  
Phone 1300 301 735

## North coast kids to benefit from historic dental package

by Justine Elliot, MP

People on the North Coast are smiling after the announcement of the Federal Labor Government's \$4 billion dental package.

"About 20,800 children in the Richmond electorate will now be eligible for government-subsidised dental care, just like they're eligible for Medicare funded visits to their GP," Justine said.

Under the package the Gillard Government will also provide dental services to more than one million low-income adults and Australians in rural and remote areas, focusing especially on pensioners.

The six-year package announced includes:

- \$2.7 billion for around 3.4 million Australian children who will be eligible for subsidised dental care.
- \$1.3 billion for around 1.4 million additional services for adults on low incomes, including pensioners and concession card holders, and those with special needs, who will



have better access to dental care in the public system; and

- \$225 million for dental capital and workforce will be provided to support expanded services for people living in outer metropolitan, regional, rural and remote areas.

Justine said the package would address increasingly poor oral health amongst Australians, particularly people from low and middle-income families. "For

decades Australians have used Medicare to visit the doctor when they're sick.

"Unfortunately millions of people don't visit the dentist because they just can't afford it – we know low-income households have more than double the number of family members with untreated tooth decay compared with high-income households.

"That's why Labor believes we have a responsibility to ensure people who are least able to afford to go the dentist, particularly children, should have access to government-subsidised dental care." Justine said.

The \$4-billion package is in addition to the \$515 million announced in the 2012-13 Budget, which included a blitz on public dental waiting lists, additional dental training and support for people in rural and remote areas.

Children aged two to 17 in Family Tax Benefit Part A-eligible families will be entitled to subsidised basic dental treatment, capped at \$1,000

per child over a two-year period. This \$2.7 billion initiative aims to address dental decay in children, which has been increasing since the 1990s.

The Gillard Government is providing \$1.3 billion to states and territories under a National Partnership Agreement to expand public dental services for low-income adults. This funding will depend on the states and territories at least maintaining their current level of dental care services.

And \$225 million in funding for dental infrastructure in outer metropolitan, rural and regional areas will assist more Australians, regardless of their location, in gaining access to high-quality dental care.

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

## Every child in every school will suffer under harsh Liberal/ National cuts

Local Federal MP Justine Elliot has condemned the NSW Government's cuts to local schools.

"This is the biggest cut to education in 20 years – since the last time the Liberals/Nationals were in Government in NSW," Justine said.

"They're cutting funding to our public schools and freezing funding to every single local Catholic and Independent school.

"Whenever a Liberal Premier picks up an axe – schools are first to face the chop."

She accused North Coast National Party MPs of sitting back and doing nothing while the savage cuts were occurring.

"Yet again, Geoff Provest, Don Page and Thomas George are either unwilling or unable to stand up for the North Coast," Justine said.

"This shows that you just can't trust the Nationals."



by Cr. Vanessa Ekins, Lismore Council

Many thanks to Nimbin voters for your strong support for the Greens: Vanessa Ekins, Susan Stock, Shae Salmon, Beth Shelley, Amanda King and Adam Guise in the Lismore City Council elections. You

elected Vanessa Ekins.

Lismore now has eleven Councillors: one Greenie (that's me), one Sustainable Future, our hard working Mayor Jenny (and her three Labor mates), and five so-called independents who are actually two un-endorsed National party members, one Liberal who recently

resigned, one town planning consultant who will be busy, and an unknown young man (hope he likes to read because there are lots of 200-page reports).

Councillors make sure that the roads, rubbish, water and sewer services are funded and parks, pools, libraries and art galleries are provided. It is also the councillor's job to represent your needs and interests. How do we know what these are? It is up to you to tell us. We welcome phone calls and respond promptly to emails. You might want a park or a riverbank restored. You may have a question about the water supply or tree clearing on the neighbour's place. Remember to tell us what the story is so we can take some action.

I want to see more footpaths and cycleways and habitat corridors through urban and rural areas. What do you want?

The big issue for Nimbin now is increasing residential development. Council has already

approved a lot and there is a push for more land to be turned into houses. Is this what the village wants? We need to make sure council consults with the villages about future growth and that we maintain food security by protecting farmland from residential development.

New housing needs to be low-cost and sustainable, with solar panels and rainwater tanks. If every house uses rainwater in the toilet and laundry, there is no need to build a Dunoon dam or desalination plants all along the coast. At the moment the Nimbin community is examining million-dollar options for a centralised water supply. Only 2% of household water is used for drinking: most is flushed down the toilet and the laundry drain. Do we really need expensive, heavily treated water for these purposes?

Email: [Vanessa.Ekins@lismore.nsw.gov.au](mailto:Vanessa.Ekins@lismore.nsw.gov.au) or phone 6624-5500.

**TERETRET**

Four cosy one-bedroom timber cabins nestled on 33 acres of natural bushland with abundant wildlife, within easy walking distance of local restaurants and shops.

Overnight or Weekly – Wheelchair Access

**TERETRET Retreat – NIMBIN**

5 High Street, Nimbin NSW 2480 AUSTRALIA  
Ph: (02) 66 891 908 - Mob: 0427 891 626  
Email: [info@teretret.com.au](mailto:info@teretret.com.au) - Web Site [www.teretret.com.au](http://www.teretret.com.au)

**Nimbin Trailer Hire**

Phone Damian 6689 1428 Mobile 0458 491 428

**NIMBIN NUMBERS**

- Bookkeeping – MYOB, Quickbooks
- Tax Preparation
- Business Activity Statements – Electronically lodged

BAS Agent No: 98777 003

**Phone Jayne 6689-0314**

**Mobile 0457-497-011**

Email: [nimbin.numbers@bigpond.com](mailto:nimbin.numbers@bigpond.com)



# From the Mayor's desk

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

Well, it's good to be back at my desk again and to be writing my column for the *GoodTimes*.

Thank you to everyone who voted for me and, even if you didn't, I am here to work for all of our Local Government Area for another four years. That means working for the people of Lismore, our other urban areas, Nimbin, other villages and for people in our rural areas. Council represents everyone whether ratepayers or renters, whether adults, children and young people and we make our decisions while considering their impact on future generations.

### New Council

Your newly elected representatives are returning councillors Isaac Smith, Neil Marks, Vanessa Ekins, Ray Houston, Simon Clough, Graham Meineke and Gianpiero Battista and new councillors Glenys Ritchie, Mathew Scheibel and Greg Bennett.

As I write this piece, the new councillors are being orientated into their roles with iPad training, briefings on how Council works and introductions to key staff. I have met the new councillors individually and am confident that they appreciate the honour and responsibility bestowed upon them by the community.

The first formal meeting of Council



will be the Extraordinary Meeting on Tuesday 2nd October when we elect a Deputy Mayor and delegates to county councils, council policy advisory groups and committees. I'm sure there will be healthy interest in these additional roles that provide councillors with the opportunity to become involved in a wide range of council-related matters.

The first ordinary meeting will be held on Tuesday 9th October. Ordinary meetings are on the second Tuesday each month, except January, at 6pm at 43 Oliver Ave, Goonellabah and are open to the public.

### CSG

Along with the ballots for mayor and councillors, there was the opportunity to vote in a poll asking 'Do you support Coal Seam Gas (CSG) extraction or production in the Lismore Council area?'

Despite the poll voting being non-compulsory, 24878 people cast their

Yes/No answer. The result was an astounding 86.86% No.

It is my intention to move a Mayoral Minute at the October council meeting in which I propose a letter to the NSW and Federal Governments indicating the lack of social license for CSG in our LGA and urging our parliamentarians to represent the community in refusing CSG here.

The road-by-road surveys on CSG are also continuing with a further 59 roads in Bexhill, Numulgi, Woodlawn and Eltham declaring their desire to be CSG-Free. My office is now the repository for 245 declarations and we see more and more of our LGA turning yellow with signage. If mining companies fail to see there is no social license here for their industry, they must be willfully blind and in denial of community will.

### LEP

Readers will recall that council ratified our Local Environmental Plan in July and sent it to the NSW Planning Minister for approval. The LEP was developed over several years of intensive and extensive community consultation and amended drafts. The final LEP had modified the zones applicable to rural areas and was developed with funding assistance from NSW Planning to ensure environmental zones were accurately mapped.

It was therefore a surprise to receive a media release from the Minister stating that the environmental zones will be removed

from the LEPs of five North Coast councils and referred back to stakeholders and government agencies for further consultation.

The decision to split the LEP is of great concern from a government that purports to support local decision making. It is also of concern that, the day after the announcement was made to the media, departmental staff had no knowledge of the Minister's decision. At the time of writing, council is still to hear officially of the decision or its detail.

### Tunable Falls Community School

During the period since the election, I've enjoyed three visits to Nimbin. The first was with the Water Wise Team to visit Tuntable Falls Community School to see how the students, staff and community save that most precious resource, water. The school is establishing the most magnificent kitchen, food garden and outdoor learning space.

The Water Wise Team members Barbara Jensen (Rous Water), Danielle McAtee (LCC), Kellie Creighton (Northern Star) and I were so impressed by the students' commitment to and understanding of sustainability.

### Nimbin Show

Last weekend I spent some time at the Nimbin Show and saw the fantastic produce display. Like everyone who saw it, I was amazed at the size of that enormous cabbage, the wonderful display of preserves,

cakes, handcrafts and photography and so much more. Despite the shortage of rain, the cattle looked in fine condition. The Nimbin Show has something to interest everyone especially in this the Year of the Farmer and also embraces the latest in sustainability technology. There is no surprise for most of us in that the best farmers have been at the forefront of sustainable practices for generations.

### Spring Arts Exhibition

This year's Spring Arts Exhibition maintains the high standard of past years and is a delightful opportunity to take in the excellence of arts practice from Nimbin and the broader community. Whether it is sculpture, ceramics, woodwork, quilting, painting, drawing, photography, glass, felting or weaving, the variety of pieces on display are bound to appeal to the thousands who will visit the exhibition in these school holidays.

### Contact

I note that more people are using Facebook to make requests for information on Council matters. Can I request that you use the Direct Message facility (fb- Jenny Dowell) if you want to contact me rather than via a post on Nimbin Hook-Ups. While I try to monitor Hook-Ups, sometimes something slips by me.

You can also contact me via email, Jenny.Dowell@lismore.nsw.gov.au phone 0402-651-394 or Twitter @Mayorjd if you wish.

## Simon says...

by **Cr Simon Clough**

Well I'm back on council, after a very hectic election process. I was delighted to see that the poll on Coal Seam Gas had a very high turn out with a resounding 87% opposed to exploration and drilling. This gives a very strong mandate to Lismore City Council to advocate and fight against the 'gas invasion'.

I was elected 6th out of 10 councillors getting strong preference support from the ALP, the Greens and David Yarnall. Unfortunately David Yarnall was not returned to council. This is a great loss as he was a very hardworking and able councillor and a good friend. However we may well see Dave make a return as I think he's been infected with the 'local government bug'.

Mayor Jenny 'Do well' did very well being returned as mayor with an absolute majority and getting in three councillors including Glenys Ritchie who is new to council.



There are two other new councilors, Mat Scheibel ('New Generation Leaders') and Greg Bennett ('Lismore Ratepayers').

The polling figures from the Nimbin booth were very interesting. The Greens got the majority of the votes, 312, Country Labor 180, Greg Bennett 76 and myself (Our Sustainable Future) 71 were the main contenders. The major feature of the poll was the 50% increase in the Country Labor Vote, which came from most other candidates. Neil Marks had the most significant drop in votes and they appear to have gone to Greg Bennett.

It looks like the council term will be taking off in top gear with Nationals Thomas George and Don Page

meeting with the Minister for Planning and staging a coup of sorts by getting the Minister to remove and review environmental zones in the Local Environment Plans (LEP) of the Northern Rivers Councils. This intervention by the Minister is unjustified and is totally undemocratic. These LEPs went through an exhaustive process of community consultation and in Lismore's case involving more than two months of public exhibition. Not only that but the LEP was hardly an election issue in Lismore, so it can't be argued that there was a mandate to review the environmental provisions. Interestingly staff of the Department of Planning knew nothing about the review of the environmental zones so it is not based on departmental concerns. My guess is that it is an attempt particularly by Thomas George to try and win back votes from conservative farmers who are disillusioned by his stand on supporting CSG. If Thomas is genuinely concerned about farmer's property rights why

isn't he taking a stand against CSG, which totally destroys property rights and farmer's land at the same time?

The state government has finally released its policies on CSG and what a miserable collection deceits and deceptions they are. We have a Strategic Land Use Policy which does not exclude any land from CSG mining except national parks. This is in direct violation of the government's election policies that vowed to protect prime agricultural areas. There is a newly created position of Land and Water Commissioner who can advise the government and farmers but has no real power. There is an Aquifer Interference Policy, which has no compliance provisions and certainly no provision for fines or punishment for contaminating our precious water. There is a 'gateway' process where experts can decide to approve drilling or approve drilling with conditions, BUT cannot decide to refuse drilling! There is also a Code of Practice for Coal Seam Gas

– Fracture Stimulation Activities. While this policy sounds weirdly sexy there are very few limits of fracking and no detail for the fracking risk assessment and so it goes on and ....

I find the philosophy that underlies all these policies particularly objectionable it's called 'Adaptive Management'. It amounts to a fancy way of saying we will try and fix it if (when) it stuffs up. And of course if we can't fix then too bad it wasn't really our fault. How do you fix a contaminated aquifer? How do you fix a person's health that has been adversely affected by CSG drilling? How do you fix a beautiful rural landscape that has been turned into an industrial zone?

I was recently elected to the national board of Lock the Gate and I'm looking forward to getting involved in the national anti-CSG strategies. Fortunately most meetings will be by phone hook up.

Meanwhile back on the home front my bike has been cleaned and polished and I've managed 90kms in the last 3 days with the hope of another long ride this morning. The weather at the moment is just exquisite

Don't forget to contact me or any other councillor should you need assistance with council matters

You can contact me on 0428-886-217 or [simonclough@internode.on.net](mailto:simonclough@internode.on.net) or Cr Simon Clough on Facebook or my blog: [www.crsimonclough.wordpress.com](http://www.crsimonclough.wordpress.com)

# Nimbin Markets

have changed, now on  
**4th & 5th Sundays**  
Great Food, Great Music, Great Community  
phone 0458 506 000

## Nimbin Tax and Accounting

PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS

Income Tax Returns – Individuals, Partnerships, Companies, Trusts and Primary Producers  
BAS & Bookkeeping Services  
Business Software, Business Advice, Grant Acquittals

Weekdays 9am - 5pm, Saturdays by appointment.  
*Discount for Centrelink recipients*

**Tel/Fax 6689-0470 Mobile 0427-855-077**

Old Bank Building, 39 Cullen Street, Nimbin  
(Next to Post Office – parking available)  
PO Box 645 Nimbin 2480 Email: [accountant@nimbin-tax.com.au](mailto:accountant@nimbin-tax.com.au)

## WANTED TO BUY

I am looking to buy guitars and other  
stringed instruments for restoration  
or parts.

Guitars  
Basses  
Mandolins  
Ukeleles  
Electric  
Acoustic  
Any Condition

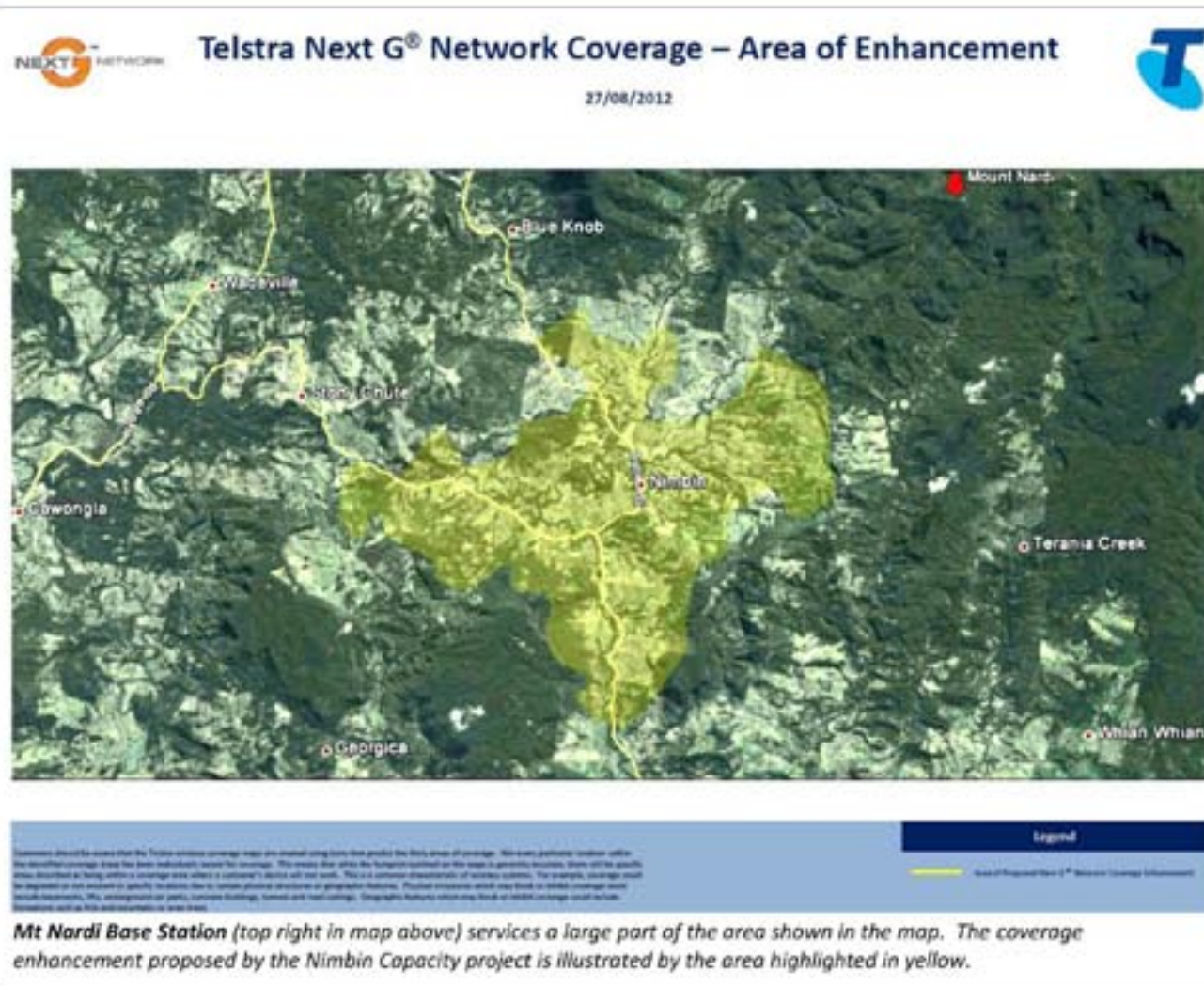
I'll pay a fair price for old instruments  
and will come to you to have a look.

Ring Marty on 6689 7255  
or email [lillianrock@bigpond.com](mailto:lillianrock@bigpond.com)



# Telstra Networking for Nimbin's Future

*Telstra is working to improve mobile and wireless coverage across NSW, including the township of Nimbin, to provide residents, tourists and businesses with more reliable communications services on its Next G® network.*



The HTC One XL is an example of a mobile device (known as a "smart phone") that Telstra customers use to connect to email and data services.

## Community Information

Telstra is presently assessing the suitability of a number of locations for a proposed base station. The potential location of base stations is primarily determined by technical requirements; however, Telstra recognises that established communities such as Nimbin Village are places of cultural and community significance, and the location of infrastructure is of community interest.

Telstra is committed to achieving a balance between community interests, environmental considerations and network operation. Telstra is undertaking an assessment of the characteristics for each of the potential locations and will ultimately report to the community through a community information session on the preferred option, the alternative candidates that were considered and the rationale for assessing all candidates.

This community information session will offer residents and stakeholders in the community an opportunity to meet directly with Telstra staff who will be on hand to answer any relevant questions regarding the proposal. Telstra will notify the community in due course about the details of the time and place for this event.

**Telstra will provide further information to the community about these proposed improvements over the coming months. For any enquiries during the interim, please contact Telstra representatives Aurecon on 02 9465 5718 or email [northcoastnswtcw@team.telstra.com](mailto:northcoastnswtcw@team.telstra.com) or Post to: PO box 1123 Lismore NSW 2480.**

### Existing Network Conditions

The telecommunications facility atop Mt Nardi presently provides mobile coverage service to Telstra customers throughout the Nimbin area and nearby towns. The Mt Nardi base station is a major communications facility servicing a large geographic coverage area of distances up to 20km away.

During recent times, mobile phone technology has become more advanced and customers are using more mobile data for email and internet access. Telstra has identified that residents, businesses and visitors in the Nimbin Village area are using more mobile data than ever before.

***"Mt Nardi base station has been optimised to its maximum capability for service to Nimbin."***

This demand is reducing the available network capacity for customers within the whole coverage area potentially causing call drop-outs and slower data speeds.

Over the past five years Telstra has made several improvements at the Mt Nardi base station. Following these improvements, the Mt Nardi base station is providing service to customers within the Nimbin Village, but coverage for the greater town of Nimbin remains in need of improvement (as illustrated by the area of proposed coverage enhancement in the map).

### Proposed Solution

Telstra has identified the solution to solve the capacity issues in the network by providing Nimbin Village with its own dedicated base station, effectively relieving the Mt Nardi site so that it can focus on providing more reliable service to the wider Nimbin Valley area.

A dedicated base station in Nimbin Village will benefit all customers in and around the Nimbin Village, including residents, businesses, visitors and tourists, who will enjoy high quality wireless data directly to their handheld devices. The proposed base station is intended to be of a slimline design and of a height that would enable a line of sight with the targeted geographic area. More details of the proposal will be available after Telstra has completed an assessment of the alternative locations.

IT'S HOW  
WE CONNECT





Open wide, here comes the folk drill

The Channon Folk Club Open Mic., Sunday 28th October from 3pm 'til dusk  
Opening Act: Liora Claff

The "folk" of Channon Folk Club volunteer their time and talents to hold an open mic on the fourth Sunday of each month, beside the creek at the Channon Butterfactory Tavern.

The group's motto is "folk and beyond" and encourages an eclectic mix of musical styles with an accoustic feel. Each performer writes their name on the board on the day and plays three songs.

There is a full PA set-up, so musicians just arrive, plug in

and play – or play unplugged. The opening act has a half-hour slot. Musicians interested in this slot should email the group or express their interest at the open mic: [thechannonfolkclub@gmail.com](mailto:thechannonfolkclub@gmail.com)

Visit The Channon Folk Club Open Mic to perform, be entertained, dance, catch up with friends, eat, drink, chat, laugh... all the good things!  
[www.folkclub.thechannon.com.au](http://www.folkclub.thechannon.com.au)



Spooky youth at Kyogle



A Halloween youth band spectacular, Spooky Saturday, will be held at the Kyogle Showground on Saturday 27th October from 6-10 pm.

The show will be run by Kyogle Enterprising Youth (KEY), a youth group supported by the Kyogle Acoustic Music Society (KAMS).

All musicians are aged 11 to 22. The current KEY youth band DeadSet will perform and host the event, including MC, administrators, and production technicians.

The Maples (above), which formed from last year's KEY group, will headline the show, with Lismore youth band Faded Nation as special guests. Kyogle's Circus Express will perform some dazzling acrobatic routines while the bands are having a break.

Local support bands include The Golden Chains from Kyogle Public School; KnightHawks with Oak Landers, Liam Lewis-Hall and Bill McKenzie; and Elemental from Kyogle High School.

Tickets \$10 for adults / \$7 KAMS members / \$5 youth, with child admission by gold coin donation. The event will be alcohol-free, with food available. For more details contact Kym Watling at KAMS on 0409-534-233 or email: [kymwatling@gmail.com](mailto:kymwatling@gmail.com)



The Lismore Jazz club presents The Clem Four on Sunday, 28th October from 2pm to 5pm, at the Lismore City Bowling Club. Admission is \$10 for members and students and \$15 for non-members.

The Clem Four, originally from Bangalow, have developed quite a following on the Brisbane Jazz Scene with their own brand of jazz, blues and funk.

Roo Friend, baritone guitar and vocals, majored in musicology, after completing jazz arranging and improvisation studies at the NSW Conservatorium of Music and studying guitar under Ike Isaacs of Stephane Grapelli fame. He has revamped the electric jazz guitar, removing the frets under half the strings and creating a unique baritone fretless/fretted hybrid that gives the Clem Four an organic bottom end, as well as providing a bluesy solo voice. He has played with many of the icons of Australian popular music as well as two years in music theatre playing Hello Dolly and Crazy For You, the Gershwin musical, amongst many other sessions and tours.

Tristan Hodson, piano, studied under Jeff Usher and also with the late Jann Rutherford and jammed with Ray Charles on Ray's last tour of Australia. As a vision impaired musician, he has the task of playing everything by ear and is a major influence behind the sometimes-dramatic sound of the Clem Four. Tristan uses "found sounds"

which are self-recorded and introduced into the mix as samples, crossing a musical line from song performance into improvised sound tracking.

Ashley Moor, trumpet and percussion, has played as a member of the Tasmanian Symphony Orchestra, the Brisbane Philharmonic and many other classical ensembles and events. He has also played in Latin groups and has a world-class sound, and doubles on bongos and guiro for the Latin numbers as well as providing vocal support.

Peter Keown, drums, a latecomer to jazz, spent earlier years playing rock, blues, funk, honky-tonk, weddings and cover bands. He also toured North America and Canada with the Bushwackers and is currently playing with the Queensland Wind and Brass jazz big band and doing the Masterclass Band with Phil Emmanuel, an annual event on the Sunshine Coast. A busy man, he is adding his experience, style and broad influences to the unique sounds of the Clem Four.

Don't miss this funky group, who will be doing their own version of Pink Floyd's 'Money', 'Moondance' by Van Morrison, 'Butterfly' by Herbie Hancock, A Night In Tunisia' by Dizzy Gillespie, 'Caledonia' blues classic and some originals, 'The Global Financial Crisis Blues' and 'Under the River', a tragic but true story about love, traffic and public infrastructure.

Turn out for Page



San Diego songwriter and crooner, Gregory Page will be playing at the Bangalow Catholic Church at 8pm on Saturday 20th October.

Page has shared stages with Bob Dylan, Jason Mraz, Judy Collins and Leon Russell, filled 1,000 seat venues in The Netherlands, recorded and self-released 20 albums,

and has charmed audiences across Australia (including The Blue Mountains Music Festival in 2011).

He weaves a magical dream-world with his extraordinary tales of love and optimistic melancholy – teetering between tradition and progress, history and fantasy.

He is launching his new Big Band album, Shine Shine Shine. Band leader, Brad Steinwehe (Aretha Franklin, Jimmy Dorsey Orchestra) assembled an all-star cast of some of the finest big band musicians in Southern California to record the album, including bassist Bob Magnanson, who played with Ella Fitzgerald and Buddy Rich.

Tickets \$20, available from Barebones Art Space, Bangalow: 6687-1393.



Li Li Kite brings soul, rhythm, inversions, drone, groove and soaring vocals to Sphinx Rock Café, Sunday 21st October.

The trio includes singer guitarist Ahliya Farebrother, with a rich vocal style and narrative songwriting skills. Drummer Danni Ogilvie bridges urban with tribal while bassist Shannon Green delivers the funk.

Li Li Kite are based in Brisbane and are currently working on their first album, 'The Witness'. The concert starts at 2pm.

Get spooky at Nimbin...

The Nimbin Hotel and Backpackers is holding an Ugly Bartender Halloween party on Friday 26th October. The Hoochers will be playing. Dress-up and pay a \$10 entrance fee: \$5 goes towards the Best Dressed prize, and \$5 to the Leukemia Foundation.

# NIMBIN BOWLO

25 Sibley Street  
Phone 6689-1250

## What's On in October?

- **Social Bowls** – Every Sunday, from 9.30am
- **Open Mic Nights** – Wednesdays 10th and 24th
- **Trivia Quiz** – Every Saturday at 7pm, with bar prizes
- **Raffles** – Fridays 7.30pm – Meat & veggie trays, chooks
- **Courtesy Bus** – Phone the bar
- **Closed Mondays**

### CHINESE RESTAURANT

- Lunch & dinner Tues – Sun
- Friday Banquets
- Take-Aways

Phone 6689-1473

Home of the 'Big Bowler'

## sphinx rock café

3220 Kyogle Rd, Mt Burrell NSW 2484 P (02) 6679 7118 [www.sphinxrockcafe.com](http://www.sphinxrockcafe.com)

### Sunday Gig Guide

**October 2pm start**

**7<sup>th</sup> Sydney or the Bush**  
From Uki, you will tap your feet and perhaps do an Irish jig

**14<sup>th</sup> Dillon James**  
Jarrah sings a bittersweet acoustic guitar & voice blend that touches deeply, creating a poetic, meditative experience

**21<sup>st</sup> Li Li Kite**  
Bringing together soul, rhythm, inversions, drone, groove, and soaring vocals to get you swaying with the music

**28<sup>th</sup> Cheynne Murphy**  
Cheynne combines sublime harmonies and a blend of 12 string and finger picking guitar

**Nov 4<sup>th</sup> Shelley Hughes Trio**  
Dripping like honey on your tongue, funk to move your hips; a new voice for Australian soul has emerged...

# Nimbin Hotel & Backpackers

53 Cullen Street, Nimbin. Ph: 6689-1246

## October Gigs

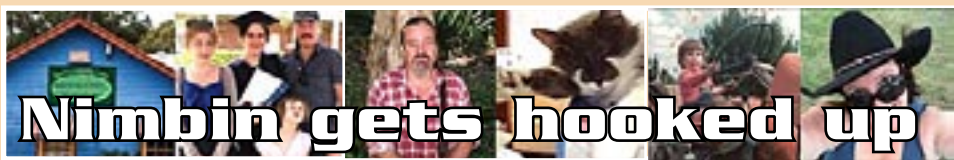
Thursday 4th	6pm	<b>Guy Kachel</b>
Friday 5th	7.30pm	<b>Papa Funk</b>
Saturday 6th	5.30pm	<b>Dinkum Bohos</b>
Sunday 7th	5.30pm	<b>The Cope Street Parade</b>
Thursday 11th	6pm	<b>Bill Jacobi</b>
Friday 12th	7.30pm	<b>The Dillion James Band</b>
Saturday 13th	6pm	<b>The Hoochers</b>
Sunday 14th	5pm	<b>Jim Bob</b>
Thursday 18th	6.30pm	<b>Sons of Summer</b>
Friday 19th	7.30pm	<b>CBD Dub Project</b>
Saturday 20th	6pm	<b>Azadoota</b>
Sunday 21st	5pm	<b>Skydaddy</b>
Thursday 25th	6.30pm	<b>Kelly and Baz</b>
Friday 26th	7.30pm	<b>The Hoochers</b>
Saturday 27th	5.30pm	<b>Left or Right</b>
Sunday 28th	3pm	<b>Beven Spiers</b>

All Gigs are Free of Charge

### Hummingbird Bistro

Bistro Specials: Mon \$10 pasta;  
Thurs \$10 steak 250g





by Dave Lambert

Nimbin Hook Ups is a Facebook page for use by Nimbin area residents and for those with connections to Nimbin (eg past residents, those with local friends and relatives).

Contrary to what may be implied by the name, it is not a dating service or lonely-hearts club. It is a local Message Board for those offering and looking for lifts; buying, selling and swapping; announcements about community events – fundraisers, social clubs etc; lost dogs and even people; what to do about tick bites, swallows pooing on your

window etc; rentals; needing and offering professional and trade services etc, etc.

It was started by Tarang Bates less than a year ago and now has close to 1000 members. Some half dozen admins make certain that ads don't become repetitive nor individuals attacked in some way. In the past month a sister group called Nimbin Hook Ups Discussion Board has been created to cater for those who enjoy a good debate – recent topics have included politics, vaccinations; fluoridation and chemtrails.

The public can view the messages but you need to be a member to post messages on the group's wall. Join today and stay in touch!

## Nimbin Natural Beekeepers Group

by James Creagh

It was a great weekend being part of the Sustainability Alley at this year's Nimbin Country Show. This was the first year the Nimbin Natural Beekeepers group were a part of the event but it was worth being part of the Nimbin's sustainability movement weekend event.

We received much interest and support from the community. We raised over \$300 from the raffle, which will be used as seed money to buy beekeeping supplies like boxes, foundations and frames. Raffle prize-winners were Jenny Kendal, Eric Smith, Joy, Mark and Steven. Thanks for donations to the raffle – Allan, Amanda Anca Meredith, Ashlee, James and Joy Gondwana. Special thanks to talented local artist Mary Alterator for her life-sized bee painting that offered fun photo opportunities.

There was a lot of interest in the native bee talk by Steve Maginnity at the speakers' tent. He shared excellent information about native bees. In the future we'd like to have him back for a full-day workshop on how to

keep native bees. If you're interested let us know.

I am planning on running another Introduction to Beekeeping (European bees) workshop in the future, if you're interested email me.

### Equipment library

The food processing equipment library has relocated to the Blue Knob Farmers Market. The library offers loans of beekeeping equipment and other items like food driers. For more information visit Nimbin Neighbourhood Centre on Cullen Street.

### Swarming season

The swarming season continues. I spent over an hour trying to catch a swarm off a macadamia tree. The swarm was 5m off the ground but I managed to cut the branch and lower it. From there it was easy to shake it into a bee box and resettle it at Lillian Rock.

The Nimbin Natural Beekeepers are available to remove any swarms for free. Swarms are a mass of bees that will temporarily nest, usually on a tree branch or a fence, while some of the bees



Eric Smith in the Bee installation at Nimbin Show

search for a new home. They can hang around for up to a few days. Swarms do pose the risk of stinging people and animals and can often struggle to find a suitable home, sometimes ending up in the wall of a house where they are difficult to remove.

If you see a swarm call ASAP and someone from the group will pop by and pick it up. Contact Bayleigh 0413-976-342 or 6689-1667.

### Next meeting

The next meeting of the Nimbin Natural Beekeepers group will be on 7th October at Alan's place at Lillian Rock. At this meeting we are planning on making frame holders for when opening a hive. We will also be opening a hive to have a look inside.

If you are interested in getting bees, or have bees, feel welcome to join us. Meetings are held on the first Sunday of the month. The meetings are an opportunity to exchange information and support natural ways of keeping bees. Contact jamescreagh@hotmail.com or phone 6689-7575 for more info.

**Fresh local produce for a sustainable future.**

- Self-sufficiency workshops
- Community Grain Mill
- Local & visiting musicians

**Corner of Blue Knob & Lillian Rock Roads**  
**Only 8km North of Nimbin**

**Saturday 9am-1pm**  
**Blue Knob Hall**

Enquiries contact Peter  
6689-7484 or email:  
[blueknobfarmersmarket@gmail.com](mailto:blueknobfarmersmarket@gmail.com)

## Blue Knob Farmers Market

by Jim Arachne

Did you make it to the Nimbin Show? Wow! Sustainability Alley, created by Blue Knob Farmer's Market, really bought a different experience to the traditional show. The Speakers' Tent in the Alley ran back-to-back seminars on topics as diverse as making Your Own Bio-Diesel, Native Bees, Farm Manufacture of Biogas, Harvesting Bush Food and Edible Weeds and Building with Hemp. Around 250 people attended the lectures with many signing up for more hands-on training and workshops.

The Paddock to Plate Café worked non-stop, supplying hand-made and home-grown meals, desserts and drinks to a continuous stream of hungry show-goers. Stalls in Sustainability Alley also highlighted Nimbin's interest in self-sufficiency. Northern Rivers Hemp made contact with potential new growers, Djanbung Permaculture Gardens educated lots of people about perennial root crops, about 20 aspiring new beekeepers signed up with Nimbin Natural Beekeepers, Zone One had lots of interest in their small bamboo dome building workshop (see below)... and lots more.

### Workshops for October

• **Building a Small Bamboo Dome – 11am-1pm, Sunday 7th October at 7 Sibley Street, Nimbin. Cost is \$15 per person.**

Learn how to make a split bamboo dome using only four pieces of bamboo! Great for chook tractors, greenhouse or temporary shelter. Adults only (some sharp tool use). Wear covered shoes, bring water, hat, sunscreen, gloves (bamboo can splinter).

Participants are welcome to bring their own tools: portable drill (charged!) and drill bits (up to 50mm), machete. Those wishing to take home their own 2m-diameter chook



Marie Cameron from the Blue Knob Farmers Market takes a moment from a busy set-up at the Nimbin Show to chat with Mayor Jenny Dowell

dome and who have access to bamboo may bring their own (5 x 3m lengths).

Enquiries to Steph on 0487-703-442.

• **Quantum Agriculture –10am, Saturday 6th October, Geoff Bassett, at Blue Knob Gallery workshop space.**

Dolph Cook has arranged for Geoff Bassett from Quantum Agriculture to do a free presentation. Geoff will be talking and teaching about Quantum Agriculture and the many facets of real agriculture as part of putting money back into the agriculture common dream we share.

The QA website, [www.quantumagriculture.com](http://www.quantumagriculture.com) says, "By working with the rules of quantum mechanics... we can accomplish seeming miracles of reducing agricultural inputs while increasing crop quality."

Enquiries to Dolph at: [dolph@biocharproject.org](mailto:dolph@biocharproject.org)

• **Nimbin Seed Exchange Network get-together – 10.30am, Sunday 21st October, at Blue Knob Gallery workshop space.**

The aim is to exchange seeds, rootstock, cuttings etc. to help create local diversity and self-reliance. Bring along some lunch to share and seeds or other plant material you have to share or swap. If you aren't gardening yet and need some planting stock, come along and find out what's available for you, and

bring some extra lunch to share.

Enquiries to Jenny at: [jennycreeasy@yahoo.com.au](mailto:jennycreeasy@yahoo.com.au)

To let other seed-savers know what you're looking for and what you have to exchange, please join the group on FaceBook – Nimbin Seed Exchange.

• **Biodynamic Field Day Sunday 28th October, 9am - 4pm, at Lillian Rock, Lise Racine. Registration is essential. Cost is \$60 or \$50 concession.**

The purpose of the Field Day is to teach the basic skills of Biodynamics. You'll learn enough in one day to get started with Biodynamics in your garden, orchard or farm.

There's some theory but the day is mostly hands-on, especially learning how to build a Biodynamic compost heap and apply Biodynamic preparations.

Attendance qualifies you for membership in the national Biodynamic Gardeners Association (BGA). Lise is a certified BGA trainer.

Enquiries to Jim at: [uloborid8@gmail.com](mailto:uloborid8@gmail.com)

If you'd like to hear about other seminars and events at the Blue Knob Farmers Market send an email to Jim at [uloborid8@gmail.com](mailto:uloborid8@gmail.com)

*The market runs Saturdays, rain, hail or shine, 9am to ~12.30pm, corner of Blue Knob and Lillian Rock roads, 8km from Nimbin in the grounds of the Blue Knob Gallery.*

## Nimbin Landscape Photo Competition

**Entries Close 1st December 2012**

Deadline extended

Enter at: [www.nimbin.nsw.au](http://www.nimbin.nsw.au)

Nimbin Chamber of Commerce is sponsoring the competition with \$100 for the best photo of Nimbin and environs Landscape. Theme: "Capturing the Magic". Enter on-line.

## OPTOMETRIST



**NIMBIN OPTICAL**  
**PH 6689 0081**

**ALL EYE TESTS BULK-BILLED**

- Full range of FRAMES and eyecare services
- Children's frames and visual exercises
- EFTPOS and Healthfund claims
- Visioncare and Veterans' Affairs benefits

Tina Fuller (B. AppSc - Optometry) At Nimbin Community Centre

**Adam's Auto Repairs**

Lic. No. 43839

**0429 672 723**

Nimbin and Districts

**Mobile Mechanic**

[www.plumbingworks.com.au](http://www.plumbingworks.com.au)

**on-site waste water treatment & disposal systems designed & installed**

**all plumbing & drainage**

**Plumbing Works**

Mob. 0427 108 677 - Phone: (02) 66 890 169



# Lies that prop-up prohibition

by John Jiggins

At the launch of the National Cannabis Prevention and Information Centre (NCPIC) in 2008, director Jan Copeland declared that the burden of disease due to cannabis use was estimated to be greater than that of HIV, Hepatitis B and Hepatitis C combined.

It was an incredible piece of hyperbole, which she tried to justify by saying the extent of cannabis use in Australia meant that the total burden of disease it caused was greater. She suggested there was a growing body of evidence concerning the impact of cannabis use on mental health, and while little was known about the respiratory effects of cannabis, she had concerns there too.

Four years have passed, and tens of millions of research dollars have flowed to NCPIC and other similarly obscure acronyms like NDARC, QADREC, etc, etc. After all these years and millions of dollars, what has NCPIC found? Where is the proof that cannabis use is more dangerous than HIV, Hep C and Hep B combined?

Since NCPIC was holding its second conference on cannabis in Brisbane, it seemed like an excellent opportunity to investigate. I contacted NCPIC but was informed by their media coordinator Paul Dillon that they would not give me a media pass. He offered me media releases instead and said he might allow me to interview their major speakers, if they were agreeable. Not unexpectedly, these interviews never eventuated.

But the public has a right to know. Ignoring the gatekeeping Mr Dillon, I boldly walked into the NCPIC conference and sat there, a conspicuous hippy among the suits.

Surprisingly, Jan Copeland seems to



be moderating her message (or does she save the extremism for her media releases?). I was astonished at one stage to hear her refer to CBD, part of the cannabis molecular make-up, as “the good cannabis”! Good cannabis? Good grief! In John Howard’s day, she would have been condemned for sending the wrong message.

Some of the display boards of their research were interesting. I learned about the “mull hypothesis. From research on users on the NSW North Coast, NCPIC discovered many cannabis users were using tobacco as spin. The mull hypothesis suggests cannabis may act as a reverse-gateway drug, leading to tobacco use!

The most interesting display board contrasted the incidence of diseases in cannabis-only users, tobacco-and-cannabis users, tobacco-only users, and those who used neither. Not unexpectedly, cannabis-only users fare worse than people who use neither cannabis nor tobacco in incidence of emphysema and bronchitis. It is the delivery system (smoking), rather than the drug that causes harm.

But cannabis-only users have significantly lower levels of cancer and liver and kidney diseases than the other groups. This is not the sort of information that NCPIC sends out media releases on. Maybe the Hemp Embassy should warn those considering

giving up cannabis that they are significantly increasing their risk of cancer and liver and kidney disease?

HEMP had organised a picket – the NCPICKet – outside the conference on Thursday night, and some supporters from Students for Sensible Drugs Policy turned up with placards reading, among other things: “#1 Cannabis Problem: It’s illegal” and “NCPIC supporting black market profits”.

The picket was organised for 5.30pm because the bar was due to open at 6.30pm, so some of the conference-goers filled in their time as they waited for the bar to open by talking with the protestors. It was a small sample, about 10 or so, but they all agreed when challenged that the main problem with cannabis was the illegality.

Asked why they weren’t discussing this at their conference, their defence was that governments wouldn’t listen. One attendee said the picket should be directed at a criminal justice conference, rather than them.

The week before, the national president of the Pharmacy Guild of Australia, Kos Sclavos, had suggested at the Pharmacy Business Network conference in Canberra that pharmacists had the experience to dispense legal marijuana.

Mr Sclavos said debate over decriminalising illicit drugs was the number one issue on the health side of politics. He told delegates that while in the capital, he had met with politicians who were looking for a solution as to how drugs such as marijuana could be distributed if they were legalised.

Change is in the air. Hopefully the day is not far off when groups like NCPIC will exhibit the same courage to talk truth to the politicians as the Pharmacy Guild.

## Hemp Headlines



### Marijuana and Cancer

[Huffington Post 19/9 Robin Wilkey] A pair of scientists at California Pacific Medical Center in San Francisco has found that a compound derived from marijuana could stop metastasis in many kinds of aggressive cancer, potentially altering the fatality of the disease forever. “It took us about 20 years of research to figure this out, but we are very excited,” said Pierre Desprez, one of the scientists behind the discovery. “We want to get started with trials as soon as possible.”

[Daily Beast 6/9 Martin A Lee] Mounting evidence from research in Spain shows ‘cannabinoids’ in marijuana slow cancer growth, inhibit formation of new blood cells that feed a tumor, and help manage pain, fatigue, nausea, and other side effects.

[Waking Times 6/9 Becca Wolford] Hempseed and hempseed oil have been found to be a factor in DNA repair. Hemp has the perfect 3:1 ratio of Omega fatty acids (Omega 3 and

Omega 6) needed by the human body. One ‘job’ of Omega 3 is cellular repair.

### U.S. led “war on drugs” questioned at U.N. as drug legalization debate intensifies in Latin America

[Reuters 26/9 Brian Winter] The presidents of Mexico, Colombia and Guatemala all called for a vigorous global debate of anti-narcotics laws at the United Nations on Wednesday, raising new questions about the wisdom of the four-decade-old, U.S.-led ‘war on drugs’. Latin America has been (and still is) the hardest-hit region by the war. It shouldn’t come as a surprise that it is the part of the world with the most vigorous debate about drug policy reform as governments look for alternatives to the failed policies. The debate is hampered by the long-entrenched prohibitionist credo and extreme pressure from the big northern neighbour. When the Uruguayan president José Mujica was asked about his proposal to make a historic break with global prohibition and put in place a legal, state-controlled market for cannabis, he replied: “Someone has to be first.”

## STREET SHUFFLE

Journal of the North Coast’s longest serving covert

by Undacuva

### You’re never alone with a drone

Pipe’s first attempt at flying the drone chaser was disastrous and it took his feral kids three days to get it working again. Now he’s not allowed near the controls.

Meanwhile back in Force HQ, the Boss is offering special bonus holidays if you put your hand up for the DTs. Drone Training is for sissies, say the old school coppers, but plenty of the new, young and edumacated ones are opting for the safety of the computer screen in an air-conditioned office. “There’s no drug testing, you can wear thongs to work and it’s better than getting shot at by drug gangs.” Shuts the bullies up every time.

Some think the days of CSG are over, meaning Choppers Seeking Grass in this case, but I know

they’ll keep flying over and working around the Bin just to terrify you hippies because they know they can. The HFD’s, high flying drones, are already scouring inland for green patches, made all the easier by the dry spell. Soon they’ll be in the coastal valleys but Pipe says he’s not worried. “They won’t find my beautiful girls.”

I’ve been called back to the Bin because the Boss insists. “There’s suddenly an awful lot of strange looking people living on your street out there, Bethany. Canberra’s concerned it’s a gathering of anti-gas protestors and they didn’t buy your report saying it’s a natural surge in nutter numbers to go with the fast-changing times.”

I told them people were falling through the cracks like soft mud and quicker than anyone can catch them. Little homeless groups are



camping together for safety on the edge of the village. Not to mention for decades the authorities have encouraged in every way the weirdos, misfits and troublemakers to head to the Bin, or the THB (Too Hard Basket) as some call it in the Nation’s Capital.

Whatever, it’s never been easier for me to disappear on the footpath amongst the witches, beggars and palm readers where I discovered it is true, the troops are restless. It could vent on Metgasco or it may pop even earlier, very hard to predict, I told the Boss. Especially if the ADHD Kid continues his vendetta against one of the hippies’ favourite sons. But it’s begun, whatever it is. A sort of restlessness.

Meanwhile, the Boss has had a shock of his own with his wife’s best friend treating her cancer with cannabis and getting results that stunned the family doctor. The Boss had to see for himself of course, but when he couldn’t believe his own eyes at the change in her health, confusion set in like fast drying cement. Seems he knew this woman well for years and was shocked at her sudden deterioration with the dreaded C but equally shocked by the quick reversal with the mediweed.

Back in the office he spent the whole day with Google reading up on all the stuff I’ve been telling him about for decades, leaving by the side door, early and without a goodbye to anyone.

Next day he calls me in. It wasn’t an apology but I could see he was reviewing in his mind all the hippy raves I’d been laying on him for years. Like if weed really was a healing herb... well, years of his life in the Force was worse than a waste of time. It was stopping thousands of genuinely suffering

people getting access to relief, or even healing. He couldn’t look me in the eye, but there was a dramatic change in atmosphere. Almost respectful, hard as it was for him.

Back on the job, I went to visit Pipe who I discovered has a fleet of his own drones in the making. Or the tribe does, actually it’s the kids in the tribe. “Any drones or choppers flying into our valley will be having company as soon as they hit the radar.” No wonder he wasn’t worried. “We’ve been practising on visitors, have a look at yourself.”

And there I was on their computer screens in full colour walking up the steep winding track to Pipe’s secret camp. Filming from both front and back, the drones monitored me every step of the way.

The laser notified us someone was on the path and the twin drones were sent skyward. Silent and Deadly, the kids have named them.

World War III was always going to be fought by pushing buttons, but I bet they didn’t expect barefoot teens on solar powered laptops to be part of the mix.



www.nimbingoodtimes.com

## RV BYESQUE

ALAN MORRIS  
PROPRIETOR

SMOKING PARAPHERNALIA & FINE USED BOOKS  
21 CARRINGTON STREET LISMORE 2480  
PO BOX 1184 LISMORE (02) 6622 4676

## HEMP COFFINS

GET IN EARLY  
Infinite uses before being buried or burnt  
As a bookshelf, linen press, broom closet, wardrobe, canoe or whatever

Made to order from \$750

02 6639 1842  
hempembassy.net

### NIMBIN HEMP EMBASSY