Money down the drain
by Robert Green

Nimbin is being railroaded into accepting a massive debt for new water works — something that can and should have been fixed ten years ago.

The New South Wales Government has decided that all water supplies must be of a potable standard, and recently Nimbin's Water Supply — especially for Gungi Road residents — does not meet this criterion. Lismore City Council was proposing to spend upward of $5.5 million dollars on new works to bring Nimbin Water Supply up to standard. But there is a history to this.

In 1998, Lismore Council decided to install a micro-filter, at a cost of $1.8 million, and set up the Nimbin Water Supply Committee to assess the system and water quality issues (exacerbated since Standard Swimmers were allowed to log the catchment above the weir in 1979).

The committee finally set up in 2001, comprised three Lismore councillors, senior council engineering staff, members of the Department of Land and Water Conservation, Department of Public Works and Services, and seven Nimbin residents.

The committee was confronted with a number of issues: muddy water in the piping, health concerns about e-coli bacteria, proposals to dredge the weir, subsidised water tanks for rural users, automatic cut-off switches and the option to connect to Lismore's supply from Rocky Creek Dam.

It was arranged to gain a better understanding of the weir, the intake and surrounding catchment. At the intake, the sediment created in the weir reservoir could be seen.

The meanderings of a river are determined not only by geology, but also by the temperature differentials in the water column. The faster, colder water always flows around the outside of a bend, depositing sediment on the inside.

This faster, colder water was being stopped by the weir wall and deflected into the warmer water on the inside of the bend, disturbing the accumulated sediment deposits and creating turbidity — and it was here on the inside of the bend that the weir wall and system intake were located.

Water temperatures were recorded at four points across the weir wall. The results were consistent and conclusive; the temperatures on the outside, eastern bank of the bend were always colder, sometimes by as much as 1.5 degrees C.

If this fast, cold water would be allowed to continue uninterrupted over the weir wall, the reservoir would naturally become self-cleaning. This meant positioning the spillway on the opposite side of the creek, quite a modification and quite a challenge for council and the committee.

In October 2001 a submission was accepted by Sydney for consideration, assessment and approval. The council decided to do a trial using sandbags stacked across the wall. This proved of benefit in demonstrating the rationale, but the sandbags soon disinigrated.

When word finally came back from Sydney, they could offer no opinion on the submission, so the council decided to proceed with temporary modifications and erected an aluminium fence across the wall with the new spillway on the eastern bank. The benefit became immediately apparent.

With flows uninterrupted the water became so clean the bottom of the reservoir could be seen for the first time. The intake grate was facing the wrong way, was made of dissimilar metals and was exhibiting a high degree of galvanic action (rust) and was covered with algae and sediment.

It was cleaned for the first time then in 2002, was cleaned again in 2009, but has not been cleaned since, nor has its position been changed.

The other recommendations made by the committee passed by council resolutions on 14th October 2003 included covering and aerating the Williams Dam.

This was deemed highly necessary in order to protect the water from the direct sun, which was causing thermal inversion in the water-body resulting in massive ribbon weed growth and a decline in water integrity. The council now re-chlorinates the water before pumping to the header tank in High Street.

Thus, the pristine water from the catchment, one of the finest supplies of water in New South Wales, and a supply that has not ceased, even during the great drought, is rendered almost undrinkable by the time it gets to a tap in town. All because of a fundamental design flaw and simple modifications that Lismore Council engineers now disregard as insignificant, worse, irrelevant.

The work of the Nimbin Water Supply Committee was never considered in this light. A debate of options and pleas to have the work completed before other major works begin have fallen on deaf ears.

This is a massive waste of money that Nimbin and Lismore councillors are paying off for 50 years (council estimates), and it is another example of engineering overkill we have come to expect from Lismore City Council.

The council needs to implement the work stipulated by the previous committee charged with improving the water quality, and passed by council resolutions in 2003, before spending another cent.

Walking the walk — without funds
by Lois Kelly

Regional Development funding for the Rainbow Road walking track has been denied, but planning and coating continues and a range of commercial opportunities that could help fund the project are being explored.

This work won’t be wasted — when funding comes, the project will be ready.

The Nimbin Headers soccer club is supportive of Rainbow Road passing along the side of its grounds. Organisers are currently working with club members to ensure that plans not only provide a fantastic walk, but also add value to the soccer club grounds.

There is an existing right of way which is on land owned by the Heads – between the interpretive and the Cavan Park. This established passage continues through the back way to the Rainbow Power Company.

A right of way (ROW) is a right of passage over land that becomes part of the title of the land, protecting the walk for the community. A solicitor has prepared a draft Deed of Agreement that has been sent to relevant landowners for their comment.

It is vital to the longevity of the project that rights of way are established before the walk is built. "Gardneresque agreements" have failed in the past.

Nick, a landscape architect, has prepared options for the Headers. Original concepts have been changed to ensure that the wishes of the Headers are honoured and that there is plenty of space for young players to kick balls around, as well as space for spectators.

There are plans for signage and an installation in this area – which could be a sports-themed sculpture or a special shelter.

Organisers have been using the NSW Police’s Safer by Design manual to ensure community safety, many thanks to Constable Ryan for taking time to walk the route and give feedback – and strong support – for Rainbow Road.

Feedback is awaited from this year’s MardiGrass event, as to how the area behind Cullen Street has worked for this special festival. This area will be a well-used community area and a major focus of Rainbow Road.

The Rainbow Road area has received a recent tourist survey has been extremely positive. Work will continue to achieve this facility for Nimbin.

C’mon, train... by Karin Kolbe, president of TOOT

The recently Casino-Murwillumbah transport study fails to meet transport needs now or into the future.

TOOT (Trains On Our Tracks) is calling on the elected members of the government to explain.

Despite promising rail for years, the report shows the NSW government hasn’t interested in transport. This is a whitewash. By focusing on heavy rail and ignoring the tourists, the government gets the answer it wants.

The report ignored the 2007 Southern Cross University patronage study which found that 2875 people would use a light rail service every day. Why in the Lismore–Bangalow road excluded from this study? This major road has clearly been omitted from the study as the answers won’t suit the government’s purpose.

It has long been argued that a commuter rail would replace the existing nonsupopal Countryside

buses, leading to savings – yet this funding is never mentioned.

If you’re unhappy about the government walking away from its promises, contact your elected representative:

Don Page 6686-7522, donpage@parliament.nsw.gov.au

Thomas George 6621-3624, liamerec@parliament.nsw.gov.au

Geoff Provest (07) 5523-4816, geoffp@parliament.nsw.gov.au

A postcard (below) distributed in the March 2007 election shows the T-shirt message: "The Nationals. Yes you can have your trains back": Standing on Murwillumbah station are (from left) Don Page, Thomas George, Steve Canadelli, Andrew Stoner, Geoff Provest and Jenny Gardner.

It’s now 2013 – and we’re still waiting...

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Cullen Street gets a brush up

by Peter Wise

Local and visiting artists have completed a major repaint of the murals central to Nimbin’s distinctive image and strong community identity, in time for this month’s Aquarius Festival celebrations.

Benny Zable has recreated his famous Over The Rainbow mural above the Rainbow Café, assisted by a team of volunteers and with the support of the Tumble Falls community.

Vernon Treweeke, who conceived and painted Nimbin’s murals before and during the 1973 festival has created a new work, Checkmate, which is now installed above the Nimbin Pizza and Trattoria.

Amanda Williamson’s work, Endangered Species, now graces the Nimbin Newsagency while Elspeth Bonanno, Eugenie Stephans Zable, Kathy Stavrou, Alfredo City Council.

Our thanks to all the people who made this project possible: the artists, Lismore Mayor Jenny Dowell, Lismore City Council, businesses and donations from the community.

Thanks also to muralists Vernon Treweeke and Benny Zable, with Peter Wise and Woodstock Museum’s Nathan Koenig

assistance, Diana Roberts for providing art studio space, Charlie Cohen for murals installation and Williams Hardware for the specialised materials and paint.

Happy 40th Aquarius celebrations, Nimbin!

May is Aquarius month

To celebrate the 40-year anniversary of the Nimbin Aquarius Festival this month, a very full calendar of events has been organised through the month.

An 18-panel display from the Aquarian Archive, Nimbin Murals, will be on show at SCU Library from 13th to 20th May, and then move to the windows of Nimbin’s shops for the rest of the month.

The photo-documentary Aquarius – Living the Dream will be displayed at the Bush Theatre on 19th May, and then move to Nimbin’s Presbyterian church until 26th May.

Film

The Woodstock Downunder documentary, a work-in-progress in six parts, will be presented by the filmmakers, Nathan Koenig and Shelli Lipton at the Bush Theatre on Tuesdays and Fridays through the month.

It will also be screened as part of the Aquarius in Lovemore events at the Star Court Theatre, Lismore from 9th to 12th May.

Conference

Southern Cross Uni will host Aquarius and Beyond at Nimbin Town Hall over two days, 23rd and 24th May.

Festivities

The Nimbin Aquarius Foundation is hosting the main event, a weekend for festival activities including a Circus, Arts and Craft Fair in the Community Centre grounds on 18th May, with a Folk Concert that night in the Town Hall, followed on the 19th by Imagine, an Aquarian Arts Happening at the Bush Theatre.

The Aquarius Maquereau Ball will be held on 25th May.

Check the calendar on Page 52, or find it online at aquarius2013.nimbin.nsw.au and share the experience.

Court victory for CSG protesters

Coal seam gas (CSG) activists (some pictured) celebrated outside Grafton Local Court as charges against three protesters arrested during the Glenugie CSG blockade in January were thrown out of court.

Ingo Medek of Blue Knob, Ian Gaillard of Keroroong and Benny Zable of Nimbin were acquitted of all charges, casting serious doubt on the viability of similar charges pending against another 15 protesters.

They were all arrested on 7th January as about 40 police, including members of the Tactical Response Group, broke the 50-day blockade at a Metgasco CSG site at Glenugie, south of Grafton, allowing a drilling rig and other equipment access.

Magistrate David Heppern found Mr Medek not guilty of hindering police, as police admitted they did not properly identify themselves or give adequate warning prior to the arrest. He also found Mr Medek not guilty of obstructing a driver, as there were no trucks in sight at the time of arrest.

He then dismissed the charges against Mr Gaillard and Mr Zable for the same reasons.

Speaking as the regional co-ordinator of Lock the Gate Northern Rivers, Mr Gaillard said the decision validated complaints by protesters at the blockade who described police action as excessive.

“The riot squad from Sydney were totally heavy handed,” Mr Gaillard said. “It was very traumatic for many, especially elderly people who were pushed around, dumped on the ground and rough handled by police.”

It was totally inappropriate the way police were used that day. It showed people that you can’t always trust your government and your police force to do the right thing,” he said.

Defence solicitor Steve Bolt said, “Speaking as a lawyer, I hope the riot squad gets the message that there are some rules they have to follow.”

“Beyond that, politicians need to understand that if they use the riot squad to move people along in a protest situation, that’s not the end of the story, if the end result is cases getting thrown out of court,” he said.

The question remains as to who ordered the riot squad from Sydney to come up to help a mining company proceed, against the wishes of a whole community.

• More on CSG, Page 11
• More on police procedures, Page 18

Nimbin Bakery

52 Cullen Street, NIMBIN

• Nimbin’s own Aquarius Loaf baked fresh daily
• Sour Dough Breads including white, rye and spelt
• Spelt Bread and rolls now baked fresh daily
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May 2013

The Nimbin GoodTimes

Page 3
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In our neighbourhood...

Nimbin Neighbourhood and Information Centre News

In your neighbourhood...

Nimbin Neighbourhood and Information Centre News

www.nnic.org.au

Complementary Health Practitioners’ Register

To get onto the register, you need to download the application form from the NNIC website, and email or bring it back to us once it is completed, or Else grab a hard copy one at NNIC, the Apothecary, Herbal Flighs and the Green Bank and drop it back to us.

NNIC website – ‘What’s On’ Events Calendar

The idea is to get as many local events on there as possible, so the whole community can use the Events Calendar on our website to avoid clashes when planning your own events, and so we can all look up every local event all in one place. So if you have an upcoming local event or know of one that is not on our calendar, email it right away, email it to us at: admin@nnic.org.au

7 Sibley St Updates

Funds are still trickling in and we need to work harder to catch up with the Lismore Regional Gallery which so far has raised over $123,000 for the quadrangle.

If Lismore can do it, so can Nimbin!... and some are cheeky, rainbow colours above our yard. Some are big and black, but not always...)

7 Sibley Street

Super Sunday Social Spectacular (get it?...7 S’s!!) – a fun day for all the family with meat and veggie BBQs, lots of fun games, activities and prizes. Get this date into your diaries. All proceeds to 7 Sibley Street.

Playhouse highlights sustainability

by Cawongla Playhouse educators

Sustainability is a focus at Cawongla Playhouse this year – and we’re looking at it both practically and creatively. All the usual good things – veggie garden, compost, worm farm, recycled craft materials and encouraging packaging-free lunchboxes are in place. To this we’ve added a few left-of-centre concepts like a giant recycled spider’s web and bang-groovy musical instruments. It possesses the three main sounds of a traditional rock/jazz drum kit – kick drum (boom), snare (crack) and hi hat (tss, tss). Children love it as it involves striking things with a stick! This movement element is what children learn about machinery that is needed on a farm, and what safety issues come with living on a property (dam, animals, fences...).

We had a very tame chicken and a rabbit here. They stayed all day in our farm corner and the children fed, cleaned and played with them. We can see how our children connect to their surroundings and how valuable their learning through pretend play is. We love to have picnics outside at this time of year, and we listen to the birds above our yard. Some are big and black and some are cheeky, rainbow colours and they ‘tss’ on us, which means lots of good luck for us!

The Nimbin Early Learning Centre is open every day from 8am to 5pm and this is a great place for your little one to learn through play at a very affordable $15 per day. Please phone us on 6689-0142 for more information.

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Our 2m2m spider web appeared at preschool one day – woven with recycled yarn and much good intent – much like a giant recycled spider’s web. A cardboard spider soon took up residence as did treasures found in our autumn playground. The whole thing has been captured on time-lapse film, to share with our families.

Another exciting addition to our preschool life is the ‘recycajon’ (re-cy-ca-jon), our very own, homemade drums. The ‘recy’ part of the name refers to the recycled materials used to create them – paint buckets, spoons, old turntable rubber mats and a few screws and bolts. The ‘cjon’ bit is inspired by the South American/Spanish instrument, the cajon (Spanish for ‘box’). It originated in Peru via African slaves who made these drums from old packing crates.

The recycajon is played by striking its various parts with drumsticks. It possesses the three main sounds of a traditional rock/jazz drum kit – kick drum (boom), snare (crack) and hi hat (tss, tss). Children love it as it involves striking things with a stick! This movement element is what children learn about machinery that is needed on a farm, and what safety issues come with living on a property (dam, animals, fences...).

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Nimbin remembers the fallen

by Paul LeBars

This year’s ANZAC Day parade and commemoration ceremony in Nimbin was a well-attended, reflective and respectful event.

It was good to see some new veterans and families joining in the march.

Thanks to Nimbin Central and Coffee Camp schools for their participation in the march, to the Nimbin RFS flag bearers, Pastor Jim Gallagher for his ongoing support for our commemorations, and all those who assisted.

This year we raised just over $600 (about double the usual) selling the ANZAC badges. Thanks to Sally, Wayne, the Nimbin Hotel and the Nimbin Bowling Club bar staff.

I am putting the idea out for a Dawn Service for next year and would like your feedback by email to: paullebars@gmail.com or on Nimbin Hook-Ups.

Thanks everyone for your support and let’s make next year’s Anzac Day a big one.

"Lest We Forget"

Paul LeBars leads the minute’s silence at the war memorial

Lismore City Council Newsletter

Public notices, updates and information for the Nimbin community

Nimbin Physical Activity Centre tender process

Tenders for the management of the Nimbin Physical Activity Centre will open on Monday, May 13. For information packages phone Community Services Coordinator Annie McWilliam on 1300 87 83 87 or email Annie.McWilliam@lismore.nsw.gov.au.

Think outside the square – pledge to Lismore Quadrangle

The launch of Not Quite Square: The story of Northern Rivers Architecture at the Lismore Regional Gallery in late April was a huge success, with a full house to celebrate the owner/builder culture that emerged in the region after the 1973 Aquarius Festival in Nimbin.

The day also included the launch of a major six-week community campaign called Pledge Now for Lismore Quadrangle that could finally give Lismore a gallery it can be proud of. The concept is to attract government funding to relocate the gallery to the ‘Lismore Quadrangle’ (the old Lismore High School site) where it would find a natural home alongside the Conservatorium and Lismore Library. The proposal also includes the development of a ‘town square’ with grassed areas in the centre of the city.

In order to make a strong application for funding, Lismore City Council needs to show there is community support for the concept. In the first four days, the Pledge Now for Lismore Quadrangle campaign raised more than $63,000 and Council would love to see that number grow. People can give as much or as little as they like – the idea is to show that this is something the region supports.

Council is looking to apply for around $4 million from Regional Development Australia with Council’s contribution largely in-kind, providing the land and C Block at the old Lismore High School site for refurbishment.

The Northern Rivers’ peak arts organisation, Arts Northern Rivers, is also exploring the idea of relocating to Lismore and becoming part of this exciting venture. It is estimated a new gallery could bring an extra 40,000 visitors to Lismore each year and that would have flow-on effects for the whole region.

Council would love to see that number grow. People can give as much or as little as they like – the idea is to show that this is something the region supports.

Any pledges made through the Pledge Now for Lismore Quadrangle campaign will only be called upon if Council is successful in gaining external funding. All donations are tax deductible. To add your voice to the groundswell of support, visit www.lismoregallery.org.au.

Nimbin roadworks scheduled for May

The reconstruction of Nimbin Road is scheduled to commence in late May. The works adjacent to High Street (beginning near the 50 speed sign as you enter the village) have been delayed due to an unusually high works schedule caused by floods and unrelenting wet weather. Council apologises for this delay.

Works will include the reconstruction of the road pavement and the inclusion of a dedicated footpath which will extend the existing footpath to High Street.

Additionally, the formalisation of the bus pick up/drop off area adjacent to High Street has also been included within the scope of works. These works are expected to take six to eight weeks to complete, weather permitting.

Mobile Library Thursday visits

The Mobile Library visits Nimbin each Thursday, offering a complete library service including talking books, DVDs, CD, access to PCs with internet and printing facilities, online catalogue and an out of hours drop off chute.

The Mobile Library has been servicing Nimbin weekly for over 30 years. It is open outside the Nimbin Neighbourhood Centre each Thursday from 10.30am to 12.30pm and 1.30pm to 5.00pm.
Congratulations to the Praise for court this a threat?). mine would now be at risk (is 150 jobs at the proposed new subsidiary of Rio Tinto). Funding for the EDO was cut?). We are seeing history repeat itself. There is another invasion of this land, this time by miners who tell us it is for our own good as they rape and pillage our land. In 1788 white civilization came, and the destruction of a society began. Then, the invaders carried guns and diseases and poisons. Now the invaders are backed by police with guns, tasers, and capiscum sprays while they, the miners, spread poisons to our water, soil, and air, just as the early settlers poisoned waterholes and flour. The same is happening now. The invaders carried guns and diseases and poisons. Now the invaders are backed by police with guns, tasers, and capsicum sprays while they, the miners, spread poisons to our water, soil, and air, just as the early settlers poisoned waterholes and flour.

This mine was open cut, not CSG, and was approved in February last year by the NSW Planning Commission, and the NSW Environmental Protection Authority. It is now the time for the communities of NSW to make frontal opposition to the Government, to cut expenditure with Coal and CSG for the benefit of other renewable energy resources. Was this mine extension another result of politicians who drummed their electricians for the Mining Industry and took with them associated public servants (as referred to by Alan Jones) for the benefit of the Mining Industry? Alex Dugal, Bungawalbyn Doubtful Creek solidarity We are residents of Ettrick, living approximately five kilometres from the CSG test drilling site at Dubious Creek. We would like to commend the people who participated in the blockade at Doubtful Creek, firstly on the clean and tidy manner in which they left the entrance to the Eden Creek Forest. Now that the threat of this dangerous industry has passed for the time being, we would like to thank the following people. The Githabal people, folks who came from town and other districts and states, even those who are at present suffering from CSG mining in their Sdh Qld. They were supported by local families, farmers, retirees, etc who ensured they had fresh water, garbage disposal, and clean facilities.

Support was also forthcoming from professional legal and medical people and many of those who could not attend, by lobbying governments on our behalf, sending letters and emails, voicing our concerns. Then there were those who set up and ran the kitchen, supported at times by local restaurants that sent out food. In addition, many shopkeepers displayed posters to raise awareness of our fears. All who attended adhered to the rules of Peaceful Direct Action, and when emotions were high, people supported each other. All up, a striking effort by all. We are indeed proud of the solidarity shown by this growing movement and know that this spirit of cooperation will stand us in good stead for whatever challenges we are presented with in the future.

Elspeth Lake, Carol Fickling, John Hay, Wayne and Ruth Dixon, Ettrick Guillible marries Greedy The self-appointed, wise King of mythical ‘Richland Valley’ has just conducted a survey of his minions to examine attendance at the public wedding of his daughter to the very promising manager of Pig Aviation Unlimited, who has been courting her for 10 years.

The carefully-worded survey question was: ‘Would you attend the wedding of Princess Guillible to Sir Greedy if you knew you would receive a diamond from Sir Greedy’s treasure trove and a gold wishing-urn, complete with genie and a flying pig, from the King’s stable?’

The King and Sir Greedy were delighted with the result that 70% of respondents said ‘yes’. That would mean 25,000 guests.

The King has now requested Sir Greedy deliver the required number of diamonds and has directed his top officials to source the wedding rings. A massive breeding program is planned for the Royal Stable and the King has promised a treasure chest of jewels to the first local farmer to supply a flying pig from which to breed sufficient airborne grunts.

A leak from the King’s stables was an attempt to keep it secret. But Sir Greedy’s team has already taken place behind the heavy doors of the Royal Cathedral and that Greedy now claims he can’t find his family jewels. Minions are being asked to display restraint and patience as the public ceremony may take some time to prepare. A tentative date has been set for the first Sunday of Never.

The Court Jester, Lord Alan of Burenden, Tatham History repeats Are we present time in Australia, we are seeing history repeat itself. There is another invasion of this land, this time by miners who tell us it is for our own good as they rape and pillage our land. In 1788 white civilization came, and the destruction of a society began. Then, the invaders carried guns and diseases and poisons. Now the invaders are backed by police with guns, tasers, and capiscum sprays while they, the miners, spread poisons to our water, soil, and air, just as the early settlers poisoned waterholes and flour. The same is happening now. The invaders carried guns and diseases and poisons. Now the invaders are backed by police with guns, tasers, and capsicum sprays while they, the miners, spread poisons to our water, soil, and air, just as the early settlers poisoned waterholes and flour.

We have an ever-increasing population. Are we to be herded into missions and fed by government handouts? Wake up Australians. It is almost too late.

Don Durrant Afterlife Slam Reap response Since writing about my sojourn in Cambodia (Postcards from Cambodia, NGT April 13) I have been taken to task, both in your letters page and on the streets of our fair village, regarding my perceptions of Slam Reap. Let me say to anybody who felt that I was denigrating the place they love...sorry, sorry, sorry.

However, in explanation, I must point out that I was only in Slam Reap for a grand total of 36 hours, 15 of which were spent either sleeping or exploring the Wats. This basically left a couple of afternoons to explore the town.

My accommodation, booked for me by a pushy telesales driver in Phnom Penh (“I have a brother in Slam Reap... I f**k”), was a dark and moudry room with the window opening into the establishment’s laundry. My evenings were spent hunting down some decent local cuisine (second rate compared to Phnom Penh street food – the pork dumpling didn’t melt in my mouth and the Amok tasted like it came from a can); and my evenings spent in an Aussie rooftop bar smoking weed and watching the pimps. Obviously, a very narrow perception of the town.

So once again, my heartfelt apologies to all who felt miffed.

Bob Tissot Nimbin Mackay murder case By some freaky coincidence the email on the piece in the Global Arena News, written by journalist John Higgins on the Mackay case, arrived while I was about halfway through Dr John Jiggens’ book ‘The killer cop and the murder of Donald Mackay. An un-put-downable read!’ Dr Jiggens’ book presents a very convincing argument...
for a re-opening of the Donald Mackay murder case. And now he’s found a new witness. “My new witness is scared of the police and scared for his life if he goes public,” he’s quoted as saying in the Area News, 8th April. And so he should be.

What assurances can the government give a person in such a situation? It’s clear that there’s been a conspiracy to prevent the truth of this case from getting out, a conspiracy that does not stop at murder, involving people at the highest levels. The so-called “war on drugs” is also a part of this conspiracy. Who benefits from this war? Only the drug dealers, as Dr Jiggams shows. Plus, by linking bent cops and criminal drug cartels with shady spy organisations like the CIA and their ties with political parties in Australia, Dr Jiggams demonstrates that there are aspects of this story suggesting a perversion of the democratic process, leading to the overthrow of the popularly elected Whitlam government.

The Mackay family, the people of Griffith and, indeed, the people of Australia have a right to know the truth about the Calabrian Mafia and its influence in Griffith, as John Higgins suggests. It’s both a despicable murder that no one deserves to die, and a tale about crims who compromised the sovereignty of Australia. 

Harsha Prabhu
Byron Bay

Federal elections loom

Opinion polls consistently show that at the next Federal election, most Australians do not want a Labor government with Gillard as PM; nor do we want a Liberal/National government with Abbott as PM. This is hardly surprising when we remember that Mr. Gillard portrayed herself as a prime minister who is by turns “real” or “fake” and opposition leader Mr. Abbott told us that we cannot believe anything our two major political leaders do because that’s what they do.

To quote in Partisan’s first issue for 2013: “What assurances can the government give a person in such a situation? It’s clear that there’s been a conspiracy to prevent the truth of this case from getting out, a conspiracy that does not stop at murder, involving people at the highest levels. The so-called ‘war on drugs’ is also a part of this conspiracy. Who benefits from this war? Only the drug dealers, as Dr Jiggams shows. Plus, by linking bent cops and criminal drug cartels with shady spy organisations like the CIA and their ties with political parties in Australia, Dr Jiggams demonstrates that there are aspects of this story suggesting a perversion of the democratic process, leading to the overthrow of the popularly elected Whitlam government. The Mackay family, the people of Griffith and, indeed, the people of Australia have a right to know the truth about the Calabrian Mafia and its influence in Griffith, as John Higgins suggests. It’s both a despicable murder that no one deserves to die, and a tale about crims who compromised the sovereignty of Australia. 

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