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## NAG's swag of issues

The expanded Nimbin Advisory Group (NAG) met on 1st August, and new members Max Pike and Stephen Wright were welcomed to the group.

The group's purpose is to ensure wide community input to council decisions regarding Nimbin.

There was an update and input session on the Nimbin Rainbow Trail Walking Track. The feasibility study shows it would meet the objectives of extending visitor length-of-stay and

expenditure, but funding for the infrastructure and maintenance remains a challenge.

Ideas for managing the Nimbin Tennis Club's financial liability were discussed, with the need for the club amenities to be marketed to the wider community. The possibility of a merger with another sporting club was put forward, and these options will be canvassed over the next three months.

Concerns were raised

about the Nimbin Recycling Centre, and the Manager of Waste Services will be at the next NAG meeting to speak on plans and costs for the facility.

Other items discussed include Nimbin footpaths and toilets. The community will be consulted regarding footpath issues – including disability access.

Ideas put forward to improve the appearance of the public toilets. The council will look at possible crime prevention funding that could assist with this.

Nimbin's place in the Lismore City Council's

Delivery Plan was discussed. The delivery plan has been replaced by the "Imagine Lismore" Community Strategic Plan. The need for Nimbin projects such as the murals, the walking track and Seven on Sibley to be included in the plan will be investigated.

Other items included finding a place for Benny Zable's Imagine mosaic in the village, the re-classification of Peace Park, the Nimbin Lighting Plan and the placement of bins in Cullen Street.

The next NAG meeting is on 7th November.

**In your neighbourhood...**  
 Nimbin Neighbourhood and Information Centre news [www.nnic.org.au](http://www.nnic.org.au)

### Green Globe Awards

Congratulations to the whole NNIC team and to Nimbin for taking out the Community Sustainability Award and the overall Premier's Award at the Green Globes last week. Drop into NNIC and check out the trophies.

### Nimbin Country Show 2013

And the Winners are....(drum roll)...

#### • Most Sustainable In Show: Tuntable Falls Primary School.

The judges were impressed by the extent to which sustainability is integral to the school's curriculum, as well as the fabulous Stephanie Alexander garden with its central outdoor classroom, and the teaching kitchen, which is heavily used by the students. Highly Commended: Dolph and Gillian – BioChar Project.

#### • Best Show-Themed Shop Display: Nimbin Bakery.

We loved the diaramas by the kids and especially the fact that they added an extra day to the show on their poster because they clearly love it so much! There were eight entries, and a couple more shops went ahead and did their displays even though they did not make it into the judging because they were not ready in time. A great effort by the main street shops and thanks to all for your efforts. Thanks also to Andrew Kavasilas for the lovely pumpkin trophy. The trophy will hang in the Bakery until next year when they will have to defend their title if they want to keep it!

#### • Nimbin Food Bytes local short film competition: "The Bouquet"

Made by Peter Hardwick, Pancho Colladetti, and Susie Wolf. Starring Johnny Evolution and Carla Muhling in the lead roles and featuring Leif Lyall and Donato Rosella. Second prize went to Guy Stewart for his equally engaging film "Made in Nimbin" featuring Jason Grignon and Non-Such Bread. Both these films were of a high quality and the judges had their work cut out for them to decide upon the winner.

The Nimbin Show itself was a great success. Sustainability Alley was even bigger and better than last year with 14 stalls representing most aspects of the Sustainable Nimbin Community Plan. Congratulations to the hard working Nimbin Show Society, the Blue Knob Farmers Market and everyone who came along to support our local show.

### Community Sustainability Survey

The survey is now out and many folks filled it out at the Nimbin Show. The survey will run until November and is available at NNIC, our website and

various places around town. This is the 3rd sustainability survey of Nimbinites since 2009. These surveys have been providing us with valuable community level data which has helped us attract funds and support for our community projects and the Sustainable Nimbin Community Plan. There are some new questions this time, in addition to those we have already been tracking through the last 2 surveys. The more Nimbinites (approx. 30km radius around Nimbin) who complete the surveys, the more valuable the data is. If you come across the survey, please take the time to fill it out and get it back to us. NOTE: please don't do the survey more than once. (Given its length, we reckon this is unlikely!).

### 7 Sibley Street updates

Check out the Master Concept plan on the website. You can provide your feedback via the Feedback Form available at NNIC or the website. There will be some sort of community forum around the Master Plan towards the end of the year. [www.sevenonsibley.com](http://www.sevenonsibley.com)

We had stalls at various events during September to promote the project, including the Living Earth Festival at Mullumbimby, the Summerland House Country Fair at Alstonville, Green Day at Barkersvale and the Lismore Sustainable House Expo.

A number of homes, gardens and farms generously opened their doors to visitors over the weekend of 28th and 29th September, to help raise funds for 7 Sibley Street. Thanks so much to all involved, especially Mandie



Paul, Nat and Guy at the Awards

Hale, Jim Sinclair, Diana Roberts and Cat Anderson who coordinated the initiative.

### NBN update

A community information session was held by NBN at the Town Hall on 2nd September (pictured below). For those who missed it, the maps and photographs of the proposed two tower locations have been provided to NNIC and can be viewed on our website.

### Nimbin Women's Dinner 2013

27th November – anyone interested in helping to organise the dinner or help out on the night, please contact Teena Kavasilas at NNIC. This year it will be a comedy night and we will be back in the Town Hall.

### NNIC website – Lots of Stuff

The website aims to serve the community. You can find local transport timetables, latest news, community events, directory of local health practitioners, stuff for young people including updates on happenings at the Sk8 park and heaps more. The site is updated on a weekly basis and is always worth a visit. If you think something should be on there but is not, or for any other feedback, email us at NNIC: [admin@nnic.org.au](mailto:admin@nnic.org.au)



NBN community information session

# LISMORE CITY COUNCIL NEWSLETTER

Public notices, updates and information for the Nimbin community



## Singing for the planet

The environmental choir Ecopella delighted an audience of green activists at the Lismore Workers Club at the end of September.

Musical director of the 13-member choir, Miguel Heatwole said, "We are very keen to make our voices heard on environmental issues, and our voices are very musical!"

The choir started in 1998 and is exclusively concerned with environmental topics. It now has six branches in Sydney, the Blue Mountains, Southern Highlands, Central Coast, the Illawarra and Canberra.

The choir hopes to raise morale among environmentally-minded people.

Miguel Heatwole said, "These are frightening times for Australians battling to protect their food and water security from the expansion of the resource extraction industry, and to avert a climatic catastrophe of devastating proportions."

"We do our best not to have too much doom and gloom in our repertoire," he said. "Many of our songs are optimistic, or at least satirically amusing."

Ecopella performed selections from its first two CDs, *An Organism Called Earth* and *Songs In The Key Of Green*, as well as material from its forthcoming album *Green Footprints*.

Their Lismore gig, a fundraiser for the Greens, was part of the choir's first tour of northern NSW and Queensland, comprising eight performances and three workshops in the two-week school holiday period.

For more information about the choir, and to hear their music, visit: [www.ecopella.org](http://www.ecopella.org)



## Vocal minority

Nimbin Community Choir's musical director Val Mace leads members with her guitar, singing a variety of songs – folk, popular, and other genres. Most are sung in three-part harmony. Harmonies are healing and lift the spirits, boosting endorphins. Some choristers drag themselves to choir during the chill winter months, only to leave energised and invigorated.

The *Vocal Minority* group is relaxed and friendly (see photo!), and welcomes new singers.

The choir meets on Tuesdays from 5pm to 6.30pm in the Nimbin Central School library during term times. The first choir for Term 4 will be on Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> October.

Just come along, or phone Val on 6689-1700.

## Classical music feast

The next Nimbin Goes Classic concert will be held this month at Nimbin Town Hall on Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> October from 4pm for a 4.30 start.

The theme is "Duets", and the show will feature work by Claude Debussy, Ross Edwards, Nicholas Routley, Ludwig van Beethoven, Hugo Wolf, Robert Schumann and Henry Eccles.

The headline act will be a performance by counter-tenor Hartley Newnham (pictured), accompanied by Australian conductor, composer and pianist Nicholas Routley.

Other performers are local musicians Pritam McCardell and Tony Gibson (flute and piano respectively), duo Bridget Crouch (violin) and Nicholas Routley (piano), and Michael McCabe (viola) and Leanne Swanson (piano).

The entrance fee \$15 (stamp at the door,

no concession) for the 90-minute concert, which will also have a 30-minute interval, during which coffee and refreshments will be available on the deck.

Tony Coiffet, organiser of these musical events, says the goal of the 2013 series is to get as broad an audience as possible in order to request government support to fund the concerts, allowing the price of the concerts to stay low.

Please join the Facebook page "Nimbin Goes Classic" for updates and information on upcoming events, or email: [NimbinGoesClassic@gmail.com](mailto:NimbinGoesClassic@gmail.com) for special requests.



## Mullum musters muso mentors

Becoming a professional musician is a lifetime journey and it's often the guidance, advice and lessons learnt from those "already in the game" that prove most valuable.

To help facilitate those initial career steps, the 2013 Mullum Music Festival is inviting musicians aged 19 years and under to participate in its Youth Mentorship Program.

Each successful applicant will be paired up with an established artist, featured on the 2013 Mullum Music Festival line up.

Young artists get a rehearsal session with

their mentor, a 20-minute performance at the festival (with their mentor backstage), the opportunity to watch their mentor perform from backstage and weekend passes to the festival.

The program includes information sessions with music industry professionals covering management, booking gigs, distribution, publishing and publicity.

Mentorships will be awarded in the Vocal, Singer-Songwriter, Band, Hip-Hop and 15-and-under categories, working with artists including Aluka, Mr Cassidy and *Skipping Girl Vinegar*.

Co-ordinated by Cape Byron Steiner teacher Tom Whitaker, this annual program has been responsible for uncovering and encouraging some impressive new talent.

*Potato Potato* were mentored by *Husky* in 2011, and have since played Splendour, Woodford and Bluesfest – and have just released their first EP.

Applications will be shortlisted, and final winners will be selected by the mentors for each category.

Applications and full terms and conditions available online at: [www.mullummusicfestival.com](http://www.mullummusicfestival.com) Entries close Monday 21<sup>st</sup> October.

## Nimbin toilets renovation

Council is planning to jzush up the public toilet block adjacent to the Nimbin Community Centre Inc, including some possible aerosol art by a local artist.

Anyone with feedback about the planned refurbishment should phone NCCI on 6689 0000.

## Nimbin Physical Activity Centre Expression of Interest

Expressions of Interest for the management of the Nimbin Physical Activity Centre will open on Monday, 7 October 2013.

For an information package phone Sandra Vincent on 1300 87 83 87 or email [sandra.vincent@lismore.nsw.gov.au](mailto:sandra.vincent@lismore.nsw.gov.au).

## Donations to community groups

Local community organisations/not-for-profits are invited to apply to Council for Section 356 Miscellaneous Community Donations.

Funds are given to community based organisations providing a community service in the Lismore Local Government Area. Funds are for specific purposes rather than ongoing operating costs. The maximum amount that a group can apply for is \$2200.

Application forms are available online at [www.lismore.nsw.gov.au](http://www.lismore.nsw.gov.au) or by calling Council's Customer Contact Centre on 1300 87 83 87. All applications must be received no later than 9am on Monday, 14 October, 2013.

## Discussion Paper – How do we protect and manage biodiversity in an active rural region?

Council invites submissions to the Discussion Paper that has been prepared as the first step in developing a Biodiversity Management Strategy for the Lismore Local Government Area (LGA).

The Discussion Paper presents a snapshot of biodiversity within the Lismore LGA, examines the major pressures on biodiversity and proposes a range of responses to help guide what action Council can take to improve biodiversity management. The public's submissions will then shape the development of the draft strategy.

Copies of the Discussion Paper are available for viewing at Council's Corporate Centre, 43 Oliver Avenue, Goonellabah, during normal business hours Monday to Friday from 8.30am to 4.30pm throughout the exhibition period from Monday, 7 October until Friday, 1 November.

Alternatively, copies can be viewed online via the 'Have Your Say' section of Council's website.

The public is invited to make submissions by post to the General Manager, Lismore City Council, PO Box 23A, Lismore, NSW 2480 or via email to [council@lismore.nsw.gov.au](mailto:council@lismore.nsw.gov.au). Submissions should state reasons for objection or support. For enquiries, phone Nick Stephens or Damian Licari on 1300 87 83 87.

## Cullen Street, Nimbin – road reconstruction

Works have recently been completed on the reconstruction of Cullen Street, Nimbin.

Works included the reconstruction of a 600m section of Cullen Street commencing at the entrance to the village through to its intersection with Sibley Street. The existing road pavement was overlaid and widened and included the installation of stormwater infrastructure with new kerb, gutter and piped stormwater drainage.

There is also a new concrete footpath which now enables pedestrians to walk from the village centre up to High Street. There is also a formalised bus pick up/drop off area for buses at the intersection of Cullen Street and High Street. Council would like to thank the residents of Nimbin and surrounds for their patience during the construction period.

## Sibley Street, Nimbin – road rehabilitation

Works have commenced on the rehabilitation of 600m of Sibley Street. Works begin adjacent to the petrol station on Sibley Street and will terminate approximately 600m to the north-east on Tunttable Falls Road.

Works include the incorporation of a pavement overlay on the existing pavement to remove surface defects and increase the structural integrity of the road. Works are expected to take three to four weeks, weather permitting. Temporary traffic control will be in place during these road works and all motorists are asked to drive to the conditions.

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Phone 1300 87 83 87  
Fax (02) 6625 0400  
Website [www.lismore.nsw.gov.au](http://www.lismore.nsw.gov.au)  
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## Ready to tackle government over CSG

I am honoured to have been re-elected the as member for Richmond and I'd like to thank all those who supported me. One of the most important issues in the election campaign was fighting to stop Coal Seam Gas mining and I'll continue to work with the community to stop the Liberal National Party expanding harmful CSG mining in our area.

Within days of being elected, the Abbott Government had already confirmed their pro-CSG agenda for NSW. The incoming Liberal National Government's Industry Minister, Ian Macfarlane, sparked outrage by declaring he would lobby and 'push hard' for NSW farmers to rethink their opposition. The minister said development of Coal Seam Gas Mining in NSW would be 'a priority' and 'the most urgent resource issue' of the new government.

This now confirms what many stated during the election campaign – a vote for the Nationals is just a vote to increase CSG mining. We're now fighting both the Federal and State Liberal



**Justine Elliot**  
Member for Richmond  
107 Minjunbal Drive  
Tweed Heads South  
Phone 1300-720-675

National Party and the CSG mining companies. They all underestimate the people of the North Coast. We will continue the fight to stop Gaslands happening here.

I'd also like to take this opportunity to thank the thousands of locals who signed the Petition to stop CSG here on the North Coast. The Petition was launched in February 2013 by myself and the former member for Page, Janelle Saffin. I'd like to acknowledge and thank the long-term commitment by Janelle to making the North Coast CSG free and

the outstanding achievements she made in delivering record funding to improve the North Coast.

The Petition has now been lodged and is set down for debate in the NSW Parliament. I am calling on the North Coast State National Party MPs Geoff Provest, Don Page, Thomas George and Chris Gulaptris to speak on the upcoming debate. This debate has been triggered because more than 12,000 locals signed the Petition to have the North Coast declared CSG mining free. Our community was forced to present this Petition because the National Party MPs have refused to listen to our concerns about CSG mining.

I'll continue keep working with the community to take the fight up to both the Federal and State Liberal National Party on any issues that affect us. I'm very concerned about their proposed cuts to jobs and services, their cuts to education and health services and their destruction of important environmental policies like pricing carbon.



**Simon says...**  
by Cr Simon Clough,  
Deputy Mayor, Lismore City Council

38 degrees is predicted for tomorrow (26-9-13). Just as well the Abbott government has abolished the Climate Commission, is preparing to do away with the price on carbon, is doing away with the Clean Energy Fund and has cut funds for its own 'practical approach to climate change' because otherwise people might think we have a problem with extreme weather.

And obviously if the government is doing away with these climate change initiatives there really can't be a problem because the government has the community's interests at heart, not those of the carbon lobby!

I was very disappointed to see Janelle Saffin lose her Federal seat in the recent election. In all my dealings with Janelle I have always found her to be very astute

and well informed and to have acted very effectively. I sincerely hope that Kevin Hogan as our new member for Page will be able to carry on Janelle's great tradition.

Last Council meeting was dominated by the F word ... fluoride. The result of the meeting was that the rescission motion was successful and Council reverts to its 2006 decision to fluoridate. However a motion to seek a directive from the Health Department on fluoride was lost which means there is still the opportunity for Council to vote against fluoride after a workshop on fluoride on 3rd December.

I have been very disappointed by the behaviour of a small number of those opposing the artificial fluoridation of the water supply. Dr Kerry Chant NSW Chief Health Officer was indirectly threatened with sarin gas as well as having her face on a wanted poster complete with bullet holes placed on facebook. In addition our Mayor was described as equivalent to Hitler in an email she received because of her support for fluoride. It is very hard to have a reasonable discussion about this issue when a small minority of people use such extreme language.

In CSG news the new federal Minister for Industry Ian MacFarlane is to visit

the electorate of Page at the invitation of our new member Kevin Hogan. In a speech to a group of farmers in the Darling Downs in April this year, the Minister described his 'misgivings' about CSG on the Darling Downs and said the Coalition policy was to support farmers who chose to say 'no' to CSG mining on their properties. See: [www.youtube.com/watch?v=DXWhQ0Sj0c](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DXWhQ0Sj0c)

He even takes credit, in the speech, for proposed new laws in NSW that would place a 2km exclusion buffer on CSG mining near townships. McFarlane's comments this week are in stark contrast with his previous position he now says that he wants to see 'every molecule' of gas extracted and he will personally drive the push to remove impediments to CSG in NSW.

I'm sure those concern about invasive industrial gasfields will give the new minister a warm welcome.

On a positive front leaked NSW government documents show that the term CSG is to no longer be used and 'natural gas from coal seams' is to replace it. Ah, the fruits of success!

Wishing you all a very pleasant spring, with no extreme weather events. Please don't hesitate to contact me on any Council issues.



## She's a hard act to follow

because it's my passion.

I congratulated Mr Hogan on election night and like the rest of the community I look forward to him making my life easier (as he promised), lowering my bills (as he promised) finishing the Pacific Highway with extra money that he promised (and broke before he was elected).

I look with interest to see how he stops the boats (as he promised, but not my position) and how many more jobs he can create (as he promised), more than 5000 I created in this area in six years, and get the economy here moving again (as he promised), considering that as I leave office it is the second fastest growing economy in regional NSW.

I'm also interested to see how he's going to ensure

what the coalition calls 'stable government', when Joe Hockey said the Nationals were irrelevant and had no influence, and senior Nats Fiona Nash and Warren Truss joined in the bunfight.

And just how is Kevin Hogan going to stop Tony Abbott winding back the water trigger legislation on CSG and handing all environmental approvals back to NSW, as they have vowed to do? Crossing the floor won't make one iota of difference. Advocacy counts, and he said when asked about the coalition's intentions, "Oh, that's the Liberals, I'm in the Nationals."

I feel much better now having said all that, and back to you good people, thanks heaps.

Janelle Saffin

A big thank you for all the lovely messages and for your support over the last six years. It's been my privilege to serve the people of Page and when I got elected I set a standard of service I believed people deserve of not only getting things done (which I did) but ethical behaviour and our community now expects that those who come after me will have to do the same.

I loved every minute and will continue to serve our community in some way. I'm staying active in politics

## Polls show CSG opposition that Abbott can't ignore

Polls out this week show strong community opposition to coal seam gas in New South Wales and the Abbott Government needs to start listening, says Tweed Greens spokesperson Dawn Walker.

"According to Lock the Gate's poll, 84% of NSW respondents support a ban on CSG on productive agricultural land and 74% want a ban on fracking, while a Newspoll in today's Australian shows 56% of NSW and ACT respondents are against CSG altogether," she said.

"People have good reason to be concerned about CSG. The National Water Commission has warned



CSG risks our water supplies, which underpin our agricultural industry.

"The big mining companies are trying to buy public support with expensive spin campaigns to try to drown out the science.

"The Abbott Government needs to wake up and realise

that we're at the end of fossil fuel era. There's no excuse for threatening our water, land, climate and food security, when we have viable renewable alternatives.

"Before the election, the Coalition said that CSG mining would only go ahead if there was no long-term damage to underground water supply and if agricultural production was not permanently impaired.

"Now the Coalition is in power, it has dramatically changed its tune. It's pressuring the states to fast track this risky industry, while blocking its ears to the community's concern and scientists' warnings," Ms Walker said.

## Grief for the Reef



by Coralie Summerton

Plans to trash one of the natural wonders of the world are in the pipeline.

Queensland wants the Great Barrier Reef to be used for the largest coal and gas ports in the world for export markets. It "belongs" to the mining companies, it seems.

One person thinks not. June Norman, 72 (pictured), has walked the 1200 kilometres from Cairns to Calliope (south of Gladstone), to highlight the issue. Taking 80 days to do it, she made history.

The Nimbin Environment Centre Community Watch van arrived in solidarity for the last 25 kms of June's trek, and some of us walked with her.

A passing journalist from Gladstone's local paper, The Observer, noticed the flags of turtles, dugong and dolphins and "protect the Reef" signs.

He put June and her

entourage on the front page, and judging by all the honking, waves and thumbs up from motorists, it is an issue close to the hearts of the Gladstone population.

"We know the Reef has many challenges," June said in an interview, "but those don't outweigh the huge damage that dredging will do. We've lost half the coral on the reef, more developments are too much, too quickly for a reef already under pressure."

She said dredging also



promotes the spread of crown of thorns starfish, which attack coral.

We need to think long-term to allow for the survival of the most beautiful underwater place on Earth.

Photos courtesy: reefnation.com



Reef Walk supporters from Friends of the Earth

# From the Mayor's desk

by Cr Jenny Dowell



villages and rural areas to the south of our Local Government Area. On behalf of all residents, I thank Janelle and wish her well for the future.

## Nimbin Show

The setting for Nimbin Show must be one of the most picturesque around the region. On Sunday, while crowds were down on the previous day, it was a perfect place to spend a couple of hours.

The combination of traditional show activities such as equestrian skills, needlework, cakes and vegetable displays together with Sustainability Alley tells the story of contemporary Nimbin. People live in harmony with each other and the land.

## Spring Arts and Sustainability

I had hoped to combine my visit to the Show with a viewing of the Spring Arts exhibition but the Masters Games schedule in Lismore forced a change of plans. I now intend seeing the exhibition when I participate in the House,

Farm and Garden Open weekend, a fundraising initiative for 7 Sibley Street, Nimbin's Sustainable Living Hub.

Congratulations to Nimbin Neighbourhood and Information Centre for winning the Premiers Award for Environmental Excellence and the Community Sustainability Award in the NSW Environment Green Globe Awards. These awards recognise the breadth of a sustainability initiatives undertaken by NNIC – congratulations Nat and team.

## Headers' success

September was a huge month for sport across the nation. In Lismore, in addition to Masters Games, we hosted the Koori Mail Aboriginal Rugby League Knock Out and the season's sporting finals. I was very fortunate to be present for two of the best games of Soccer to see Nimbin Headers win the Grade 12, 2nd South Grand Final over Goonellabah and then the 4th Division men's game between Headers and Thistles. They were both fabulous wins by Headers in front of loud and proud local supporters.

## Fluoride

The hottest issue faced by Council over many years is the addition of fluoride to the Rous water supply. In 2006, Council along with Richmond Valley and Ballina Councils agreed to allow Rous water to add fluoride. Byron Shire opted out of fluoridation thus

requiring numerous fluoride plants rather than one at the Nightcap Range treatment plant.

In August, Lismore Council re-debated fluoridation and resolved (6/4 with Cr Ritchie absent) to advise Rous Water that we did not want fluoride. At the September meeting a Rescission motion was successful (6/5) thereby reversing the August decision. It was also resolved to hold a workshop with presenters from both sides of the argument. We also agreed to ask the Health department to fund the costs of fluoridation.

The workshop is scheduled for Tuesday December 3 at 6pm. There will be one hour presentations from experts from both sides, questions from councilors, ten minutes of questions from the gallery and closing statements from the speakers.

## Phytocap First

Council is very proud to be holders of the first license for a phytocapped landfill in NSW. The NSW Minister for the Environment, Robyn Parker visited the site at the Wyrallah Road facility to plant a koala food tree on top of a large landfill site. Phytocapping is an alternative to the traditional lining and clay capping of a landfill and follows a trial site that we have monitored for green house gases and leachate over several years. Not only does the treed phytocapped site reduce emissions and escaping leachate, but it reduces Council's

costs by 50% and produces koala habitat. Truly a win, win, win.

Next time you are at the Wyrallah Road waste facility, note the eucalypt plantings to the left of the entrance road near the weighbridge. The compost and mulch produced from the domestic green waste collection are sure to help the trees thrive.

## Blakebrook Quarry roadworks

Council has awarded the contract for the upgrade of the intersection and entrance to Blakebrook Quarry to Hazell Brothers Group. The works are valued at over \$613,000 and are expected to continue until Christmas.

## Nimbin roadworks

While at the Soccer finals and at the Show, it was lovely to hear positive comments about the roadworks and pathway leading into Nimbin from the south. At the time of writing, works are 99% complete with only a tidy up, guideposts and line-marking to be done.

## Section 356 grants

Applications are open for donations to community based organisations providing a community service in the Lismore LGA. Funds are for specific purposes rather than ongoing operating costs. The maximum amount that a group can apply for is \$2200. Application forms are available online at [www.lismore.nsw.gov.au](http://www.lismore.nsw.gov.au) or by calling 1300 87 83 87. Applications close at 9am on Monday, 14 October, 2013.

# Mexican stand-off over reforms

by Warwick Fry

Checking into my hotel room in Mexico City at midnight after a 30-hour trans-Pacific trip, I flick the TV on while unpacking. Lines of riot police, a scatter of demonstrators, a curling wisp of teargas and a dispassionate voiceover. Latin America. It's as if I'd never been away.

The current protest is against the government's Law of Educational Reform, which was passed in September. One teacher described it thus: "The education system here is like a truck. It's badly maintained, the tyres are bald, the brakes don't work properly and it's always breaking down. What's more, it has to go off the superhighway onto bad and dangerous back roads."

"The Educational Reform Bill is like trying to fix these problems by giving the driver a driving test".

The bill proposes to assess teachers' performance at regular intervals. The teachers say that this is labour reform disguised as educational reform. It impugns their professionalism and is a distraction from the issues that need to be addressed in a genuine reform of the education system.

But more pernicious, say the teachers, is the fact that it violates the constitutional guarantee of free education, with parents now forced to buy textbooks, pens and notepads. They see this as creeping privatisation.

The Teachers Union in Mexico is not to be taken



lightly. In Oaxaca in 2006 they went out for six months. When Federal troops were sent in, first the students and then the people rallied behind the teachers, bringing about the resignation of the state governor.

Neighbourhood committees were formed, barricading police and troops out of the communities; for a while Oaxaca was almost self-governing as a separate state.

The teachers protesting in Mexico City have maintained a vigil for the five months since the Educational Reform Bill was first proposed. When it was passed a couple of weeks ago, there were rallies and protests nationwide.

The protest in Mexico City became more militant, blocking main traffic arteries and shutting down the centre. That's when the police moved in and the game got rough.

President Enrique Nieto is seen to be running a neoliberal economic agenda – involving changes to the constitution – that favours the US and the ultra-rich.

Political pundits say that hardnosing opposition to this program will be laying

the grounds for an outbreak of social unrest of the sort that led to the fall of the neo-conservative governments in Venezuela, Ecuador, and Bolivia.

At a rally in the centre of Mexico City (pictured), nearly 30,000 people showed their opposition to Nieto's proposed privatisation of Pemex – Mexico's state owned petroleum industry – and he is proposing to introduce a tax regime.

This would be political suicide in most countries. But the ruling PRI party is so notoriously corrupt, and so strongly supported by the ultra-rich and the US, that he probably thinks he can sail it through unscathed.

The major opposition figure, Alvaro Obragon, took the stage at the protest rally, hailed as "the true President of the Mexican Republic". (Most Mexicans believe he was robbed of the presidency in the last two elections). He is challenging President Nieto to put the proposals of privatising petroleum and energy to a popular referendum.

The 6<sup>th</sup> October will be a date to watch in Mexico.

# Back in the USSR

by Peter Atkinson

This tale starts way back in March 1968. I boarded a Russian ship in Yokohama bound for Nakhodka on the east coast of the USSR as it then was. This is where the Trans Siberian Railway started.

After two and a half days of exciting stormy seas, we were in sight of land when, a few miles away, I could see a line of five mean looking war ships. They were heading into Vladivostok, a closed city at the time and just across the bay from Nakhodka. I believe it is still one of Russia's main naval ports.

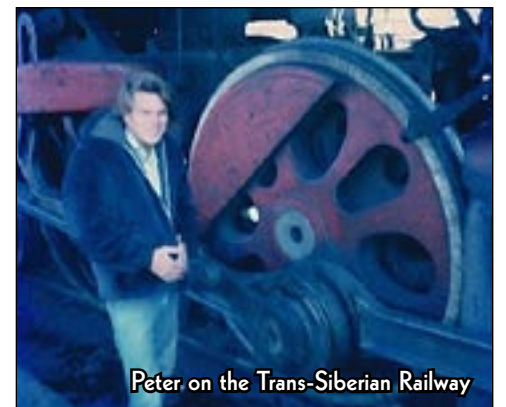
I was alone outside on the deck when a loud announcement was made in Russian. Of course I ignored it, but very soon an officer of some kind came up and escorted me inside and told me to stay in the dining room where all the few other passengers were. This was my first taste of paranoia shown by the Soviet authorities.

A couple of hours later we landed. We were some hours late because of the stormy crossing so the few of us were hurried to board the train through very brief customs, visa check etc. The train was pulled by two of the biggest steam engines I had ever seen.

After the first night of stopping and starting, pitch black outside with the occasional single-light station I was wondering how I was going to handle six days of this. (I had *The Brothers Karamazov* to read.) On one of my walks up and down, I discovered another passenger had moved into the apartment next door. He was a middle-aged American journalist who had spent the last three years in Vietnam. A nervous type, we did strike up some interesting conversation, largely about the war.



Peter crosses the Bering Sea



Peter on the Trans-Siberian Railway

Over the next two days we went through some spectacular, mountainous, snow covered scenery and along the shore of Lake Baikal, the deepest fresh water lake in the world. It was still frozen solid and I could see trucks driving across it.

Just as we were pulling into the city of Irkutsk, the American suddenly said he was getting off and could I take a roll of film to the American Embassy in Moscow for him. He told me it was stuff from Vietnam. I didn't think too much of it and stuffed it in my bag and he was gone.

On arrival in Moscow I was escorted to the Hotel Intourist, the only one for foreigners. It was quite sparse but warm and quite close to Red Square. The streets of Moscow were all a bit stark, once again few people and very little colour. It was hard to find any food places or shops of any kind. Red Square was quite spectacular with St Basil's colourful domes and spheres. It was the Brezhnev era and what money there was, was going into arms and cold war stuff. The people were repressed and very poor.

I heard afterwards that I was much more likely to have been watched by the British than the KGB. I was a student and at the first sign of any trouble I could be picked up and sent home. The day I was due to catch an evening train to Leningrad and Finland I found the American Embassy. I walked up to the guard on the gate and gave him the roll of film. He took it and didn't say a word. Within an hour I was on another train and gone.

# Lessons from preferences debacle

by Aidan Ricketts

The dust has barely settled on the federal election and Australia is starting to see what the Abbottocalypse looks like.

A humanitarian problem has been invented as a military one, with the public kept in the dark about boat arrivals, the Cabinet looks like a monastery with scores of men and one Bishop, and reliable science is purged from the climate change issue.

The Climate Commission is gone, the clean energy fund frozen, the carbon price under attack and CSG is being talked-up again for NSW. There's even talk of changing legislation to stop activists running consumer boycotts against unethical businesses.

The Lower House result was maybe not as bad as it might have been, but what of the Senate? This is an area which left-leaning voters, left-leaning parties and Northern Rivers residents need to think about.

The Senate looks to be controlled by right wing or obscure micro-parties. In NSW, the Liberals have seized the last Senate spot from the Greens, partly because HEMP and Wikileaks preferences went to right wingers (Liberal Democrats), and Get Up's Simon Sheikh lost out to Animal Justice Party preferences being sent against the Greens.

In Western Australia, Scott Ludlam looks set to lose partly because Wikileaks preferred the Nationals over the Greens.

There's a certain confluence of values that marks out the modern day left-leaning social movements: social justice, human rights, environmental sustainability, humane treatment of animals, open government and climate change.

These form a suite of issues on which the Greens have by far the best policies of any of the bigger parties likely to be elected. This is the mob that needs to stick together and support each other in preferencing.

People running minor parties of the left (HEMP, Stop CSG, Sex Party, Wikileaks) rushed to commit political suicide at the altar of tricky Senate preference deals.

In previous elections, we saw the DLP or Family First elected on small votes thanks to leakages of decent left-leaning votes. Trying to be too clever with preference deals doesn't play out well for any party that has real policies.

From the day the preference deals were sealed, Wikileaks imploded as party members railed at deals that favoured extreme right wing parties. Internal conflict consumed the Northern Rivers as news of HEMP party, Sex party and Stop CSG preference deals exploded in controversy.

What a laugh it is for the right to see the left undermining itself with naïve and counterproductive preference strategies. The right sticks together, and knows who its enemies are (it's us, folks).

There is an important difference between a strategy and a tactic.

Preferential voting is about the least unpopular candidates getting elected. Parties are eliminated from lowest-scoring to highest until the remaining contenders reap preference flows.

Genuine parties with real policies such as HEMP, Stop CSG, Wikileaks and the Greens will never be the "least unpopular", because the right knows left agendas and opposes them.

Front parties – with catchy innocent sounding names like Liberal Democrats,

and Motoring Enthusiasts – stand a chance in preference lotteries because they have no sensible agendas and thus don't offend anyone.

The only real advantage of a complex preference strategy is if you think you might get elected yourself. This, my friends is called candidate fever. It's pretty much delusional to have thought that HEMP, Stop CSG or Wikileaks were going to get a Senate quota (even with bizarre preference deals)

The overarching risk of bizarre preference deals is that they deliver power to enemies of the left.

The alternative is to show real ethics, real solidarity and recognise that other left parties are our comrades.

It's not just about whether your preference strategy makes sense mathematically, it's also about how your supporters will feel betrayed when they realise you have sent their votes to extreme right wing parties.

Small parties do irreparable damage to the party's brand in the eyes of potential supporters by getting involved in these dirty games and there is also the tragedy of conflict that erupts when the preference deals get publicly debated.

There's just one more part of this horror story. A senate quota is about a seventh of the total vote in NSW, and six senators are elected. When the Greens narrowly lose the final spot not only do those HEMP and Wikileaks votes fail to secure a left-leaning candidate, but votes that went to the last party excluded get wasted.

The result in NSW is four right-wing senators and two Labor. By not sticking together, the left has lost its voice.

Let's never make these mistakes again, let's stick together for a better future.

## A train wreck named HEMP

by John Jiggins

I resigned from the Help End Marijuana Prohibition (HEMP) Party in July. I'd had enough of the lack of internal democracy.

All power in HEMP was controlled by the troika of president Michael Balderstone, HEMP's national campaign director, Jim Moylan, and HEMP's returning officer, Graham Askey. The wishes of the members were ignored.

This issue was crystallised for me when I discovered a motion had secretly been passed that specified that HEMP's Queensland Senate candidate was to be appointed by head office. I was acting president of Queensland's HEMP branch, but I was kept ignorant of this decision.

Jim Moylan, national campaign director, had decided that HEMP's Queensland Senate candidate should be Jim Moylan, resident of Lismore, NSW. Historically, HEMP has polled highest in Queensland. If you wanted to get bumped into Parliament from HEMP, your best chance was to run in Queensland. In HEMP's version of the NSW disease, Jim Moylan was parachuting himself into Queensland.

Moylan nominated one of his mates, a character called Robbo Da Yobbo, as the new Queensland president and his running partner. The identity of Queensland HEMP was stolen and they found themselves represented by a Moylan-Yobbo ticket.

Moylan alienated the Victorians even more. Matt Riley, HEMP's Victorian candidate, rejected designs for posters which he thought were outdated. Moylan printed and sent him 500 posters, largely the designs Riley had rejected.

HEMP Victoria had been participating in forums at Melbourne universities with

a coalition that included the Australian Sex Party (ASP), the Drug Law Reform Australia Party (DLRA) and Students for Sensible Drugs Policy. They were establishing a good working relationship with these groups.

Riley anticipated that HEMP's votes in Victoria would flow to the Sex Party. Fiona Patten of the Sex Party had almost been elected at the last Senate contest and Riley hoped his preference would aid in electing a pro-drug-law-reform Senator.

He was devastated when HEMP gave Patten 33rd position on their ticket, from where there was little chance she would get any HEMP preferences. Riley's preferences elected Senator Ricky Muir of the Australian Motoring Enthusiasts Party.

Graham Askey's preferencing deals were the other reason I left HEMP. Askey seemed to be unduly under the influence of "the preference whisperer", Glenn Druery, a political fixer employed by the Shooters and Fishers Party and other parties. Druery organises a caucus for the minor parties; get-togethers where their returning officers are encouraged to recycle their votes among themselves.

The Victorian disaster occurred because Askey preferenced against the interests of drug law reform and in the interest of the Druery alliance. You can see this when you compare how HEMP and the Shooters and Fishers directed their preference flows for the Senate in 2013.

Forty-five parties stood for the Senate in New South Wales. For the Shooters and Fishers, Druery's first preference choice was the Senator OnLine Party; Askey chose them third. Druery's second choice was the Building Australia Party; this was also Askey's second choice. Druery's third choice was the Australian Voice Party; Askey chose them seventh.

In Victoria, 39 parties contested the Senate. Australian Voice was the Shooters and Fishers first choice; HEMP put them fourth. Ricky Muir of the Motoring Enthusiasts was Druery's second choice; he was Askey's fifth. Muir went on to win the seat on HEMP preferences. The Shooters and Fishers fourth choice was the Bank Reform Party; HEMP chose them sixth. Waiting a long way down the list to inherit HEMP's preferences (in position 33) was Fiona Patten of the Sex Party. The Sex Party felt duded. They were. If HEMP preferences had gone to Fiona Patten rather than Ricky Muir, it may well have been Senator Fiona Patten.

Askey's deal-making was focused solely on getting Moylan elected in Queensland so Matt Riley votes were cynically traded towards this aim. However this strategy failed because HEMP's vote was down 40% in Queensland due to the Moylan-Yobbo ticket. In WA, Druery's first preference choice was Wayne Dropulich of the Sports Party, who was almost elected Senator with a remarkable 0.2% of the vote. He was also Askey's first choice. In Queensland, Tasmania and South Australia, it was a similar story of HEMP's commitment to the Druery alliance.

Given the dissimilarities in aims between the parties, how does Askey explain the remarkable similarities between his and Druery's choices? HEMP voters thought they were voting for drug law reform. They would be devastated to learn that they were secretly supporting the anti-Green agenda of the Shooters and Fishers Party.

The train wreck named HEMP spent \$40,000 on a campaign that split their supporters and foiled the cause of drug law reform in Australia, while delivering a right wing, anti-Green coalition significant influence in the Senate. Until members regain control of the HEMP Party, it appears that Glenn Druery will be the master they serve.



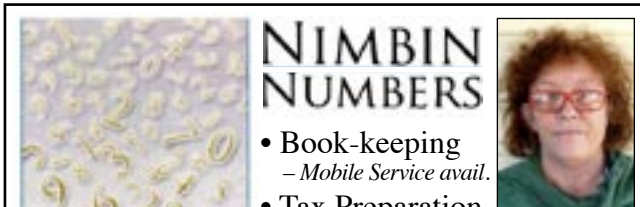
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# HEMP HEADLINES

## Senate election lotto

The combined vote of political parties that support Cannabis law reform in the election is the highest ever. Votes for HEMP, Sex Party, Democrats, LDP and Drug Law Reform are close to one million votes. HEMP has attracted about 0.71% of the vote – a total of 92,184 first preference votes nationally. The Liberal Democrats, who probably got a lot of votes by mistake from people who intended to vote Liberal in NSW, are staunchly libertarian, including inebriation rights, legal Cannabis, the decriminalisation of drugs and assisted suicide, and the legalisation of gay marriage. Palmer has Senators in Queensland and Tasmania, Motorists in Victoria, Sports in WA and a Family First from South Australia. The six new Senators will make for an interesting time when they start their six-year term next July.

## Cash-in-hand economy and illegal drugs trade generating billions [The Age]

Australia's black economy and illegal drugs trade are officially worth \$30 billion a year. The Bureau of Statistics has estimated the nation's "underground production" – otherwise known as the cash economy – is worth 1.5 per cent of gross domestic product or about \$24 billion a year. An Australia Institute report estimated the black economy was robbing federal and state government coffers of at least \$5 billion a year and more than half a million workers used cash-in-hand payments. The annual trade in illegal drugs is worth another 0.4 per cent of GDP or about \$6.5 billion a year. The bureau used the "best available" data to estimate the value of illegal drug production. It assumed the most "economically significant" drugs were cannabis, amphetamines, ecstasy, heroin and cocaine.

## Study highlights medico-legal complications of marijuana blood tests [ABC]

If you've ever smoked cannabis and your job requires drug testing, you might be well advised not to run or cycle to work. Researchers from the University of Sydney have found that THC, the main intoxicating ingredient of marijuana, is released from a user's body-fat stores during exercise. That means that in many cases, enough of it is released to trigger a positive drug test, despite the fact that the drug may actually have been used months previously.

## Synthetic drugs to be outlawed in NSW [SMH]

The NSW government said the laws are the first of their kind in Australia and will target the manufacture, supply and advertising of synthetic drugs such as synthetic cannabis, cocaine and LSD. NSW Greens MP John Kaye said the government's legislation was "doomed to failure". "The O'Farrell government has shifted the arms race between the drug manufacturers and the regulations to a new plane. The new battleground will be over the meaning of 'psychoactive' and will inevitably result in yet another generation of extremely dangerous drugs. The New

Zealand approach of testing and regulating the availability of relatively safe substances not only works, but reduces the unnecessary criminalisation of both users and suppliers."

## Marco Renda: HEMP Ambassador

The Nimbin HEMP Embassy in Australia recognises the outstanding achievements and contributions that Marco Renda (*Treating Yourself* magazine) makes in his support of Medical Cannabis and Hemp. In recognition we award the highest diplomatic title to Marco as our resident North American representative, HEMP Ambassador.

## US drug agents use vast phone trove, eclipsing N.S.A. [NY Times]

For at least six years, law enforcement officials working on a counternarcotics program have had routine access, using subpoenas, to an enormous AT&T database that contains the records of decades of Americans' phone calls – parallel to but covering a far longer time than the National Security Agency's hotly disputed collection of phone call logs.

## Marijuana stores can open in Colorado and Washington [US News]

The US Department of Justice announced in September that it will not block recreational marijuana stores from opening next year in Colorado and Washington state. The Justice Department said in a release it will allow the stores to open, but that it expects state regulations to be "tough in practice, not just on paper, and include strong, state-based enforcement efforts, backed by adequate funding."

## In Jamaica, a twist on wine tours for pot lovers [Seattle Times]

Napa and Sonoma have their wine tours, and travellers flock to Scotland to sample the fine single malt whiskies. But in Jamaica, farmers are offering a different kind of trip for a different type of connoisseur. Call them ganja tours: smoky, mystical – and technically illegal – journeys to some of the island's hidden cannabis plantations, where pot tourists can sample such strains as "purple kush" and "pineapple skunk."



New revised pocket-size edition available now in Nimbin and at Noah's Ark, Lismore



Members of Australia's Help End Marijuana Prohibition (HEMP) Party lift a banner displaying a parody of the iconic Obama 'Hope' poster in Sydney on 2nd September. Photo: David Gray/Reuters

## STREET SHUFFLE

Journal of the North Coast's longest serving covert

by Undacuva



fantasy has come true and it's a disaster.

Several Undas on Abbott duty smoke weed and we were sharing some hash early one morning before the bike ride when he walked in on us. Turns out his life is like his pot experience. "In this manner, Bill Clinton and I have something

in common." He puffed only, never inhaled. A few nights later we were alone and that's when I discovered he likes the hippies. "They're always talking about God," was his only explanation. I couldn't help myself. "You were scared to inhale weren't you sir? It may have been your doorway to God. That's what the hippies say."

He admitted he kept wondering if not inhaling was symbolic of his whole life. He'd seen 'marrwana' change people and it frightened him. When I explained to him how Clinton just didn't like smoke but loved hash cookies he became quite agitated and went back to his little bedsit with the picture of his mum where the Queen was once. A fellow Unda swears he heard Tony talking to the portrait asking what to do.

The morning bike ride left me knackered the first few days but slowly I could see he needs his pedaling workout like I need weed. It helps him think and he gets inspiration with the wind in his face like others get it in the shower. Otherwise his head is like Howards house except most of the rooms are empty, vacant. And poor little Tony is often left stranded in one of those rooms by his mother according to his somnoliquy.

When he has to talk publicly and the script is not set he says the words in his head are like icebergs. "They won't move along, it's like wading through knee high mud. It feels like I'm speaking in slow motion."

One of the Federal Cops in the Cloisters is keeping a book on when Turnbull will take over, which, believe it or not is big weed news. As much as the Abbot behaves like his name, the Turnbull is a pothead. He loves the stuff and always did, or since he was a teen. He'd legalize tomorrow if he could and assured me he'll give it his best shot when the baton changes.

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- **Sunday 20th** – Pink Ribbon Day
- **November 2nd & 3rd** – Continental Carnival
- **Live Music Wednesday nights**

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### Fantasies Erotique Cabaret 2013 shows

Jaz and Judy Who produce really wild entertainment together, creatively combining the talents of local designers, musicians and some 20 performers, into unforgettable nights of cabaret that are absolutely not to be missed.

After a super successful two-night season at Kohinur Hall, Mullumbimby last year, Fantasies Erotique Cabaret is about to spread its wings again, with a very entertaining, stylish show.

Full of erotic dances on poles and swings, performing in extraordinary original costumes to the pulsating rhythms of the Nimbin Drummers and DJ Pop, with

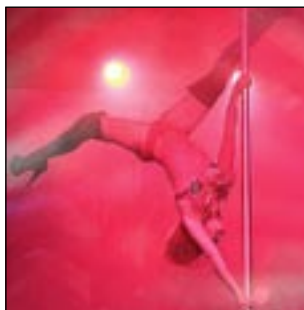
Crystal Grid putting on a mega production of lighting, sound and projections, it's a must-see.

Fantasies Erotique Cabaret is sponsored by The Pleasure Consultant, who will be giving away a naughty pack as just one of the prizes on the night. There will also be Best Dressed Male, Female and Couple prizes.

Two shows are planned for November: on Saturday 9th at Nimbin Town Hall, and a week later on Saturday 16th at Byron Bay Brewery aka the Buddha Bar, which also has the Arts Factory as accommodation for the night.

Tickets are now available at Who Designs studio, 44 Cullen Street Nimbin, or online at [www.rawdesignsworks.com](http://www.rawdesignsworks.com)

Contact Jaz or Judy Who through the website for more info, or if you have what it takes to be on stage at these spectacular events.



## Nimbin set to sizzle with male revue

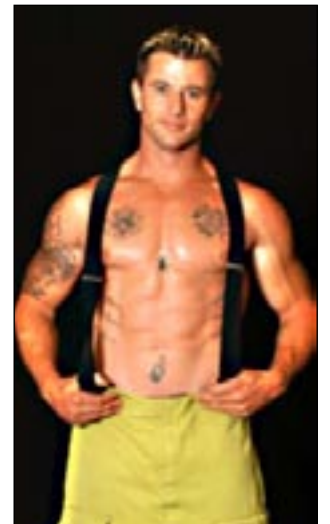
The Bodyheat Male Revue will be appearing for one night only at Nimbin Bowling Club on Thursday 14th November.

Brisbane-based Bodyheat is known nationwide as the hottest group of upscale male exotic dancers in the business today. They present a professionally choreographed show that features hand-selected versatile performers who are proven crowd-pleasers.

The music starts at 6.30pm, with the show starting at 7.30pm. Music will continue after the show, during which the troupe will mix with the crowd. A condition of entry to the show is that the audience remain respectful.

Tickets are \$25 for pre-purchase or \$30 at the door. Bookings can be made through club (phone 6689-1250 Wed-Sun) or at Treasure and Trash in Nimbin.

The Bowlo bus will be available for local Nimbin members for \$5 return (phone club to book). A bus will also be available for a return trip from Lismore-Nimbin for \$10 (book bus when purchasing your ticket). It will leave Lismore from the Transit



Centre at 6pm.

The boys use all of the floor, so every seat is the best seat in the house.

## Casino winner in town

The Lismore Jazz Club hosts local group *Casino Street* at the Lismore City Bowling Club on Sunday 27th October.

*Casino Street* is led by vocalist Sally Gwynne, who has a long association with the jazz scene. In Sydney she has worked with some of the greats of Australian jazz, most notably jazz legends Julian Lee and Craig Scott.

Gwynne has lent her talents to other jazz greats, including Don Burrows' pianist Kevin Hunt, saxophonists Paul Furness and Paul Williams, guitarists Ike Isaacs and his brother Saul, pianist Col Nolan and many others.

She has performed at venues like The Basement, Soup Plus and Strawberry Hills Hotel, and jazz festivals including Manly, Thredbo and Parramatta.



Since relocating to the North Coast several years ago, Sally has sought out local musicians to perform gigs around the local circuit.

For the Lismore gig, Sally will have



Frank Williams on sax, Don Peterson on bass, John Derkley on keyboard, Ben Rogers on guitar and Tim Burrell on drums.

*Casino Street* will be playing some of the great standards of the past – 'I Only Have Eyes for You', 'Tuxedo Junction', 'Cold, Cold Heart' – as well as songs from more recent times with a distinctive jazz flavouring.

The concert goes from 2pm to 5pm. Admission is \$10 for members and students, \$15 for non-members.

## Spoonbill for Boca Fiesta



On Sunday 6th October, FreeCreation Events and Seed will be putting on Boca Fiesta to celebrate the long weekend and the first long day of daylight saving in the lush resort of Paradise One at Coorabell in the Byron Bay hinterland.

The venue features a licensed bar and restaurant and swimming in the beautiful Wilsons Creek.

Beats by Spoonbill (pictured), Mystic Beats, RudKat, Dakini, Seed, Z.I.V., Miss Moon and D\*v\*S, midday to midnight.

Admission \$20 by invitation only, through: [www.facebook.com/frecreation.events](http://www.facebook.com/frecreation.events)

## Blue Moon Cabaret

Following one of their best ever Cabarets in September, the Nimbin School of Arts will present their final Blue Moon Cabaret of the year on Saturday 6th November with another BIG night of the performance arts.

After 6 months touring Japan, acrobat Derek Llewellyn will be a feature performer along with singers Louie and Patrick, Matilda, Sisken River, Andrea Soler, Michael Fairley and hip-hoppers Supafresh; break dancer Issara Ketkal plus the Nomad Bitches; cabaret artiste Phoebe Joy, comedian Nick Penn, Nimbin Poetry Cup winner Darkwing Dub and more.

This will be another sellout fund-raising show for the School of Arts, so book early to avoid missing out. The show will be

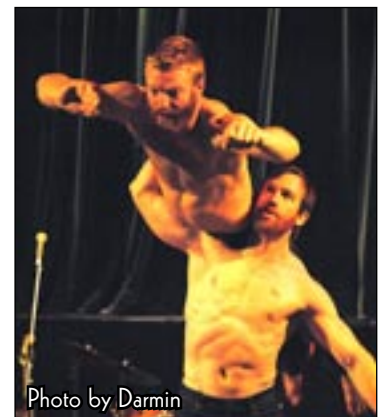


Photo by Darmin

fully catered by Hearth and Soul, and the Cabaret is licensed (no BYO). Tickets and table reservations are essential, all bookings are at Perceptios (ph 6689-1766) Show tickets are \$30/\$25 conc. Doors open for dinner at 6.30pm.



Powerhouse vocalist of Kellie Knight and the Daze strips down to acoustic style alongside Daze members Steve Mcleod (guitar) and Paul Brewer (bass) to entice audiences with smoky and sensual sounds from her upcoming E.

Catch them at Sphinx Rock Cafe on Sunday, 3rd November, at 1pm. They will play originals as well as covers from influences such as India Arie, Amy Winehouse, James Brown and Nina Simone.

## Better get Red



Residing amongst the lush greens of the Nimbin Valley, local band *Gently Red* brings you an exciting combination of folk and rock.

Songs are stories of the heart, of life journeys and moments of truth. Through music we seek to express the riches and discoveries of life as a humble human on planet earth.

The group's stated intent is to keep music alive – living, breathing and reinventing itself in each moment, bringing back a little bit of soul to a digitalised world.

*Gently Red* will play 5th October at 9pm at The Gollan Hotel, Lismore, and on 27th October from 1pm at the Sphinx Rock Cafe.

The gigs will appeal to fans of Martha Wainwright, Katie Melua, The Waifs, Lisa Hannigan and The Audreys.

### Where there's a Will...

*Fortune* is the debut album from 19-year-old Brisbane roots musician Will Watson, who has been sending a call for peace, change, land right and activism across Queensland and NSW over the past year.

Since the first single, *Privilege*, was released in February 2013, Watson has gone on to complete his first full studio recording with close friend and producer Declan Roche.

In the first six months of 2013 he has played a sold-out show at Brisbane Arena, become a RAW artist, taken part in anti-CSG rallies, been picked up by FBI radio (Sydney) and 4ZZ (Brisbane) and completed his first tour.



Supported by folk duo Georgia Rose and Sally Ann, Will will be joined by Declan Roche on drums and percussion for the tour.

He plays free shows at 7pm on 9th October at The Rails, Byron Bay, with Steph Pickett, and on the 13th October at the Sphinx Rock Cafe from 1pm.

## Where were you?

The Channon Folk Club's last Open Mic on 22nd September was a tad disappointing.

Where was everyone? The weather was perfect, so we can't blame 'Hughie'.

For the first time since the inception of the club in April 2008, we ran out of performers well before scheduled ending time.

Fortunately we were able to persuade one of the locals, Heinrich, to do a few numbers on a borrowed guitar to keep the ball rolling.

By 4.30pm it suddenly became busy, with Toby stepping up for a second set, backed by Norm Bell on drums, then Norm and Kathy doing a late set to round off



the unusual afternoon. Unfortunately the Open Mics will not continue if there isn't an increase in interest from performers and audience soon.

Our next Open Mic is scheduled for 27th October. Please come along and show your support. With daylight saving we now start at 3pm. Hope to see you there.

## Kyogle musician brings home music award

Kyogle musician and producer Brett Hamlyn has won the 2013 NCEIA Dolphin Awards in the Pop category for his song 'Oxygen'.

Brett said, "After being nominated for seven awards last year, it was a relief to finally receive one!"

The song was written for his wife Johanna on the occasion of her birthday, and was recorded and produced at Deva Studio, which Brett owns and operates.

Kyogle-based children's entertainers Bushranger School were also nominated for an award for their song 'Cheeky Kookaburra' in the Children's category, but were pipped at the post.



The Dolphin awards are held annually by the North Coast Entertainment Industry Association to showcase musical talent on the North Coast, and attract renowned talent, judges, and fantastic prizes.



Another musical coup for Kyogle! The internationally renowned Foghorn Stringband from Portland, Oregon, will be sharing their southern old-time music at the Kyogle Memorial Hall on Tuesday 29th October, doors opening 6.30pm.

The Kyogle Acoustic Music Society (KAMS) has arranged for the band to visit Kyogle following their headline performance at the Dorrigo Folk and Bluegrass Festival, as part of the Foghorn Stringband's first tour of Australia.

The band will be supported by local bluegrass favourites The Barkers Vale Brothers, with Gareth Bjaaland acting as MC.

This is a huge event for Kyogle, a little town in the scenic Border Ranges region that is now attracting major

international performers due to its promotion and appreciation of bluegrass music.

For the first time, KAMS has arranged for the historical Kyogle Memorial Hall to be the venue for one of its concerts.

Tickets are \$20 adults/\$15 KAMS members/\$10 youth/\$50 family of four (two youths) and will be available at Macdade & Family Store, Kyogle, at the door, and online at [www.trybooking.com/DLQS](http://www.trybooking.com/DLQS)

Under-12s enter by gold coin donation, and patrons can bring their own refreshments.

For visitors to Kyogle, overnight camping is available close by at the Kyogle Showground and can be booked through the caretaker, Helen Goebel, on 0459-537-601.

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Sunday Gig Guide

October 1pm start

**6th Romaniacs**  
Tunes inspired by gypsy, folk, Latin, Celtic, Spanish & Eastern roots.

**13th Will Watson**  
Multi-instrumentalist roots musician hailing from Brisbane.

**20th Air Structure**  
Local Muso's, new band, new tunes...jazzy, dub grooves.

**27th Gently Red**  
Songstress Lisa Cameron on vocals, singing indie & folk.

November

**3rd Kellie Knight**  
Sit back and relax to the sounds of old time and contemporary jazz alike, as well as some funky style originals.

**Nimbin Hotel & Backpackers**

53 Cullen Street, Nimbin. Ph: 6689-1246

October Gigs

Friday 4th	7.30pm	DOS RUN DOS
Saturday 5th	6.30pm	Little Zenith
Sunday 6th	5pm	Simon Meola
Thursday 10th	6pm	Caboose
Friday 11th	7.30pm	Thorazoo
Saturday 12th	6pm	ANTIBODIES & Dr Bombay
Sunday 13th	5pm	TBA
Thursday 17th	6pm	Surf Report
Friday 18th	7.30pm	HOOCHERS
Sat 19th	6pm	Gavin Doniger
Sun 20th	5pm	Les Karski
Thursday 24th	6pm	Lionheir
Friday 25th	7.30pm	SABOTAGE
Saturday 26th	6pm	TBA
Sunday 27th	5pm	TBA
Thursday 24th	6pm	Richie Williams
Fri 1st Nov	7.30pm	Romaniacs

All Gigs are Free of Charge

JOKER POKER starts Thursday 5th September

"Come & celebrate OKTOBERFEST 2013 @ Nimbin Hotel – October 26 & 27"

**Hummingbird Bistro**

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