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THE CASINO

EPA faces grilling over logging

The North East Forest Alliance has welcomed the NSW Upper House inquiry into the Environment Protection Authority's audit of Royal Camp State Forest near Casino.

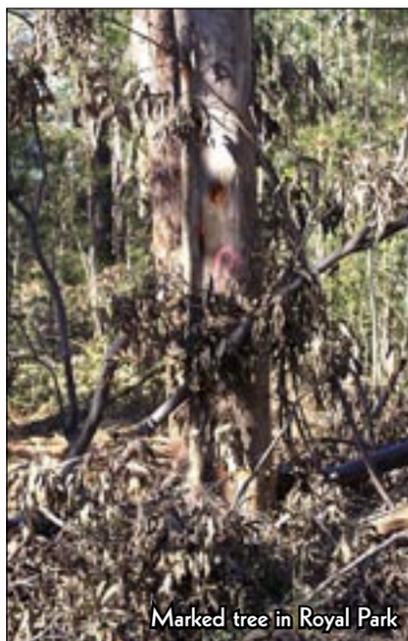
NEFA spokesperson Dailan Pugh said that while the EPA issued the Forestry Corporation three \$300 fines for logging in a Koala High Use Area, a 2013 audit report failed to respond to NEFA's complaints over the logging of another two Koala High Use Areas – while the EPA were conducting their audit.

"Given that the EPA told us they had inspected at least one of these and agreed it was another Koala High Use Area, their failure to mention it in their report is inexplicable."

The EPA dismissed several complaints on the grounds that they could not locate the alleged locations. "This was despite NEFA providing the EPA with photos, GPS locations and even leading the EPA to the specific breaches in the forest," Mr Pugh said.

"There is something very rotten when the EPA claim they could not find breaches they were shown on-site."

"We were disappointed that the EPA once again ignored our complaints about logging facilitating the spread of both lantana and Bell Miner Associated



Marked tree in Royal Park

Dieback along the main creek through the area.

"We also showed EPA the head and upper trunk of an illegally felled Spotted Gum, with the distinctive incisions that yellow-bellied gliders make in the trunk in order to collect sap for feeding."

Despite wildlife ecologist Mr. Milledge discussing this with EPA on site, the



Koala scats in Royal Park

EPA refused to take any action because they claimed "they could not determine beyond reasonable doubt whether the incisions had been made by a yellow-bellied glider", Mr. Pugh said.

Mr. Milledge said the incisions were among the clearest and most readily identifiable that he had seen.

Mr. Pugh said NEFA does not consider that the EPA dealt with its complaints in a fair, balanced or competent manner.

He says the EPA suppressed audit results relevant to complaints, claimed that they couldn't find trees they were shown on the ground, ignored expert evidence, and refused to audit significant breaches.

"We welcome this opportunity to have the EPA's handling of this matter investigated," Mr Pugh said. "Their audit was either a deliberate attempt to hide the nature and extent of breaches or an extremely shoddy, unprofessional and incompetent job."

A visit to the Enviro Centre

by Laura White

When I visited the Casino Environment Centre last week for the first time in more than six months, I was amazed and uplifted to see how the centre is thriving.

It has surely fulfilled its vision to become a unique and vibrant resource for nourishing and empowering the Casino community and surrounding region.

The Barker Street shopfront provides a colourful welcome to locals and visitors alike, and the dedicated volunteer staff capture the minds and hearts of people from many walks of life.

The range of local foods and sustainable fresh produce has grown greatly, and I was astounded by the range of functional



and beautiful eco-friendly products now available.

Moving beyond a fantastic range of high quality eco soaps, incense, candles and health products, through to new and recycled clothing right down to natural fibre wooden toothbrushes!

The newly available durable steel reusable

takeaway containers are a perfect addition to the product range, making it easy for everyone to make those small changes necessary to make big changes to the health of the environment.

Of course the Centre continues to provide a comprehensive array of up-

to-date information growing to encompass almost any local or global environment-related issue one could think of. Increased office space has been incorporated into the centre to accommodate a growing team of volunteer environmentalists researching, informing and networking, as well as getting done all of the day-to-day activity to keep the busy centre running smoothly.

The best part is that, even with the influx of new stock, there is plenty of room to sit and relax in comfort and soak up the ambience, and although busy with environmental action near and far, the lovely friendly volunteer staff still make time for a chat and a laugh, while humbly imparting their pearls of wisdom.

It's definitely worth a visit.



Weaving magic at CEC

by Linda Wirf

Last Sunday was the first of the weaving classes at Casino Environment Centre. Two very keen students came along to learn how to set up the big frame loom to weave a rag rug from recycled fabric. Everyone had a go of winding the warp onto the loom, and by the second hour the weaving was starting to grow.

Students were shown techniques to cut long strips from different shaped fabric to avoid too many joins. One of the most exciting things is seeing how the patterns change when the fabric strips are woven, creating subtle colours and designs.

It took a few goes to get a feel for the over-one under-one weaving rhythm, and to work out the right tension, but both students were soon weaving away like old hands. At the end of the class they were very inspired to set up a loom at home and start using all their old clothes to create their own uniquely beautiful rag rug.

There will be another class for beginner weavers at CEC (137 Barker St, Casino) on Sunday 13th July at 10.30am. Bring old clothes or fabric for weaving if you have any.

The class is free. Just come on the day or call Linda on 0406-409-747 for more info.

'I did it in Casino', at the wetlands



Jabiru Geenbeebeinga Wetlands, Casino Photo: Dee Hartin

by Philippe Dupuy

Congratulations to the Casino Chamber of Commerce & Industry Inc. for embarking on a campaign to encourage Casino businesses to work together as a community. The Casino Environment Centre (CEC) attended the first meeting of the campaign and was encouraged by the group's statement and their vision, in particular that of raising the focus on tourism.

The General Manager and the Mayor of Richmond Valley were also present, and allocated \$5000 to the campaign. We sincerely hope that they will engage with the issues and participate in the urgent work needed to preserve the precious little left of our environment.

The catch-cry "I did it in Casino" seems like a reasonable slogan, and if promoted with enthusiasm should show results. However, we must understand that Australia's eastern coastline has some of the most diverse and unique coastal wetland ecosystems in the world, providing a range of economic as well as social, cultural and ecological services.

Yet wetlands and other coastal ecosystems continue to be rapidly lost, despite the benefits to be gained from maintaining them. Many people (including decision-makers at many levels) do not know about or appreciate the many functions and services that wetlands provide.

Wetlands are a vital part of catchment diversity, maintaining ecosystem resilience against significant environmental changes such as drought, flood, fire or severe storms and climate change. Wetlands regulate the spatial and temporal distribution of water across a catchment, driving hydrological cycling of surface water, groundwater and atmospheric water. Wetlands are particularly important to groundwater aquifer recharge and flood mitigation by holding back floodwaters and allowing them to slowly soak away.

Wetlands are highly productive systems that facilitate nutrient cycling between organisms and the environment, promoting biological growth and primary production. They also stabilise soil, trap sediment and reduce erosion. Slow-flowing wetlands such as marshes trap, store and assimilate pollutants, including nutrients and chemicals from stormwater or agricultural run-off.

Wetlands ensure a clean supply of water for domestic use, irrigation, stock watering, industrial use etc. The main supply of fresh water for human use comes from lakes, rivers and groundwater aquifers. Even groundwater supplies rely on wetlands for recharge to keep them full.

As the key nursery habitat for many seafood species, coastal wetland availability and health directly

determines the viability of commercial fishing and aquaculture industries. Along with ecotourism, this provides a huge tangible economic benefit.

As a crucial social and cultural resource, wetlands provide areas for many types of recreation, eg boating, fishing, swimming nature appreciation; and often have anthropological, archaeological, historical, scientific, spiritual, aesthetic or sociological significance.

Wetlands provide a vast array of benefits to humans, some of which are difficult to define in economic terms. It is clear, though, that many wetland services are crucial to our very existence. 'Development' of a wetland is likely to decimate its true value. Clearly, protection, not conversion, of the few remaining healthy and intact wetlands is the smartest investment decision.

We at the CEC are keen to participate, and with our emphasis on the environment, should be able to help make the wetlands of the Richmond Valley a prized sight indeed. We did it in Casino, we cleaned up in Casino, we reduced packaging in Casino, we worked on restoring degraded wetlands in Casino and we stopped Casino from turning into a gasfield. We hope to see innumerable overseas visitors and hear their cries of excitement as they watch thousands of birds flying in v-formation in the red sky of Casino.

An Icon Lives On

by Robin Kanters

The 'Chocolate Chip Confectionery Chocolates and Tobacconist' is one of the few remaining icons of Casino.

Established in 1978, the business was founded by Sid and Muriel Miles and was set up along the lines of an old time English Sweet Shop.

In those days, the style of supermarkets that we now have in Casino, didn't exist.

Each season brought another event – Easter, Mother's Day, Father's Day and Christmas – with eggs, chocolates and sweets displayed from floor to (almost) the ceiling.

With Casino's progression to 'large supermarket' status, so marked the slowdown of small specialty shops, with many falling by the wayside over the years.

Mr and Mrs Miles (as the children

knew them in those days) retired in 1998. Over the next 14 years there were two further proprietors of the 'Chocolate Chip'.

I took over the business in May 2012 with a vision to take the 'Chocolate Chip' back to its original glory, and by all accounts, the 'Chocolate Chip' of today is well and truly a walk down memory lane for old time customers returning with their children and grandchildren.

For those who have just started the relationship; the first visit to this fine shop is something that could be likened to the scenes of 'Willy Wonka and the Chocolate Factory'. The smiles and delight of visitors of all ages (from the very young to the very mature) create smiles and delight for me. Nothing makes me happier than to make others happy.

The business has expanded to include



my individually designed, beautiful chocolate bouquets for any occasion.

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Kazya



Kazya (Kasia Karski) isn't a newcomer to the music scene. In the cover band Hyacinth, she travelled around regional Western Australia, delivering powerful female anthems to hungry fans, and as a solo artist, she has supported the likes of Ash Grunwald, The Hussy Hicks and The Lucky Wonders.

Recreating some classic hits from the 80's, 90's and today, Kazya is sure to provide an interesting twist to your favourite songs when she plays the Nimbin Hotel on Saturday 19th July at 6.30pm.



Iconoclasts

Nimbin's Antibodies are an energetic and unpredictable band – five mates with a love of music and alternative lifestyles. Their alternative power pop/rock tracks are delivered raw, with attitude and a live punk edge.

You never know what frontman Richie (pictured) will get up to... or whether unscripted crowd members decide to join in with the mayhem.

The Antibodies are sharing a gig with Dr Bombay at Nimbin Hotel on Friday 25th July at 7.30pm. Check out their stuff at: reverbnation.com/antibodies69



Tightrope Alley

Four Northern Rivers musicians have banded together to deliver an unmistakable sound of lightnin' blues, dancing grooves, and guitar licks and moves.

Tightrope Alley was born in 2007 after a chance meeting between guitarist/singer Paul Abood and guitarist Phil Young, which highlighted their passion for music, guitar, and Texas Blues.

Soon after this meeting, drummer Matt Mooney joined the band, and later Christos Nicolaou joined on bass to form one of the tightest and most solid rhythm sections on the North Coast.

In June 2008 the band debuted at the Eltham Hotel, and since then, Tightrope Alley has been much in demand as a live act throughout the Northern Rivers with their special brand of hard-driving Texas blues and rock.

Tightrope Alley perform covers from artists such as Stevie Ray Vaughan, Garry Moore, Jeff Healey, Kenny Wayne Shepherd, Jimi Hendrix, AC/DC and ZZ Top to name a few. Catch them at Nimbin Hotel on Friday 18th July at 7.30pm.



The Channon Folk? Club

by Ray Flanagan (Rayzor)

(above) was the highlight.

The last Open Mic on Sunday 22nd June was held in the grounds of The Channon Butterfactory Tavern, on one of those clear perfect Winter afternoons the North Coast is famous for.

So where was everyone? The lack of performers did prompt a few of the "cupboard musos", who normally don't perform in public, to take to the stage. Although jamming was to be the main fare for the afternoon, Julie and daughter Malaika's Bollywood dancing

The renaming of The Channon Folk Club has been suggested. It's thought the current name may exclude some potential performers and audience members who are not aware of the wide range of musical genres covered at our open mic sessions. Any suggestions are welcome.

Sunday 27th July from 2pm is our next open mic. So do join us for a fun afternoon. Snacks are available at the Tavern Restaurant during the afternoon and meals from 6pm.

Nimbin Hotel & Backpackers

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July Gigs

Friday 4th	7.30pm	Diana Anaid
Saturday 5th	6pm	TRASHARAMA
Sunday 6th	5pm	Archaic Revival
Thursday 10th	6.30pm	Adam Brown
Friday 11th	7.30pm	Kellie Knight and the Daze
Saturday 12th	6.30pm	Simon Meola
Sunday 13th	5pm	TBA
Thursday 17th	6.30pm	Solo Output
Friday 18th	7.30pm	Tightrope Alley
Saturday 19th	6.30pm	Kazya
Sunday 20th	5pm	Adam Brown
Thursday 24th	6.30pm	Jesse Morris Duo
Friday 25th	7.30pm	Antibodies/ Dr Bombay
Saturday 26th	6.30pm	Les Karski
Sunday 29th	5pm	Eddie Boyd and the Phatapillars
Thursday 31st	6.30pm	Mr Troy

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Sydney ex-pat pianist Walter Lampe has lived in the Netherlands for over two decades, developing his unique style of jazz/soul tradition, with open improvisation that is dynamic in power and emotion.



Walter Lampe Trio

Accompanying Walter will be Thierry Fossemalle on double bass and Scott Hills on drums. The trio will be presenting some of Walter's own open compositions – some in memory of David Ades – and will deliver earthy versions of well-known Ellington songs and other selected standards.

The Walter Lampe Trio will play the Lismore City Bowling Club on Sunday 27th July, from 3pm to 6pm. (Please note the later start.) Admission is \$10 for Lismore Jazz Club members and students and \$15 for non-members. Schoolchildren are free.

The Lismore Jazz Club AGM is on 29th July at the Lismore City Bowling club at 9pm.



Nimbin's hilarious annual Shlock Horror film festival comes to the Nimbin pub this month. Seriously B-grade, and not to be missed, it's on Saturday 5th July at 6pm. Come in a tacky costume.



Duck out to Whian Whian

Galapagos Duck will play at Whian Whian Hall, 420 Whian Whian Road, (opposite the school) on Saturday 5th July, from 2-5pm. Cover charge \$10. BYO drinks. A rare treat.

Best smoko: it's official

The Nimbin Cannabis Cup was held on a beautiful Sunday afternoon last month.

In what is thought to be the 16th local derby, a record number of judges smoked their way through 30 cannabis and another 9 hashish entries. At a secret location, over 60 local and invited judges arrived at a magnificent residence with an eagle's eye view across the Nimbin valley.

The first round requires judges to inspect, smell, feel and weigh up the standard of each entry compared to the others. For novice judges this is the difficult round where variances can make or break the most technically minded horticulturalist. Judges award a single point to 3 different entries of buds and hash, which they believe show the types of attributes required to take out this prestigious event.

First round judging this year was interesting, with the mostly virgin ladies (a bit of seed is not a sin in any Internationally Sanctioned Cannabis Cup, ISCC) savouring the attention. Quite a sight, as the resin dripped from colas as judges lifted each to their nose. At the end of the first round of judging, no clear winner could be deduced, what with margins of error and preferencing to be sorted out.

After a short break where the finest morsels and refreshments were washed down with the lavish tones of the Mona Lizard band, it was time for the second round, which of course is where the mark of a true cannabis connoisseur is displayed. This is no wine tasting slurping and spitting affair. In our homegrown Cannabis Cup, judges are required to consume, in any way they prefer, a measured amount of each of the 3 entries they think requires further analysis.

It's always a pleasure to watch the professionalism displayed by judges as they not only refrain from spitting, but rather take the time, while inhaling deeply, to register the high attained by each and every entry they judge. Many noted how the more experienced aficionados ignited sample after sample in search of the One to rule them all.

The One, whose lineage remains unblemished by modern breeding and manipulation, whose thoroughbred-ness can be traced back to the joints of Genghis, further back to the valleys of Bakea to Manali, across the prehistoric land bridge into the north of Africa and further back still to the Afghanica morphed upon mountains of the Kush.

I could go on, but I'm sure you'd rather hear about how it ended up, how the game was played, which of these resin laden ladies strutted her stuff at her exquisite best.

After the smoke cleared, here's how it rolled out. First



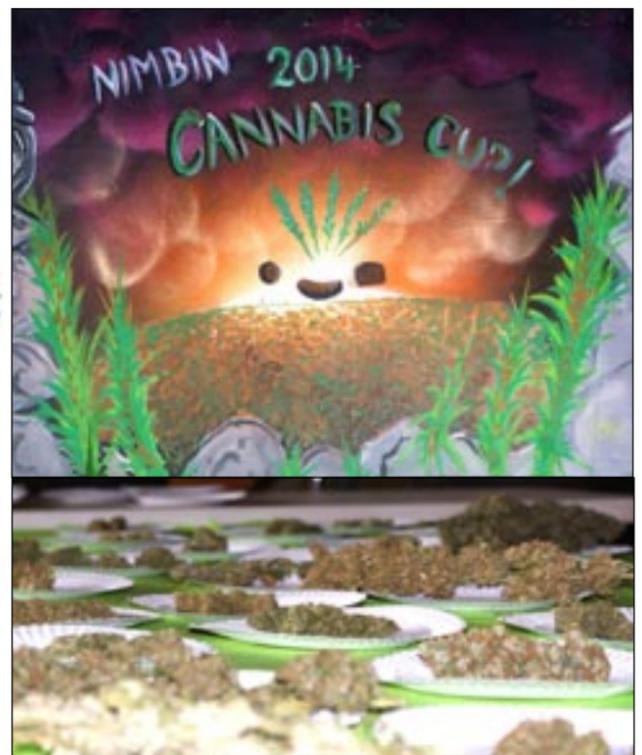
The winner



The honey oil entry

round, on 20 points was White Mist, followed by Acapulco X Magic Mist 19 pts; Bubba Kush-Pre 97, 18 pts; Webber 14 pts; Lumpy Space Pot 13 pts, Rainbow Dreaming X Carrot 12 pts; Super Nova 10 pts. Second round on 18 points was Acapulco X Magic Mist; Bubba Kush - Pre 97, 16 pts; White Mist 14 pts; Webber 10 pts; Super Nova 10 pts; Lumpy Space Pot 8 pts; Rainbow Dreaming X Carrot 4 pts.

So at the end of both rounds of judging, where soul and substance are weighed against words and beauty, the winner of the 2014 Nimbin Cannabis Cup is Acapulco Gold X Magic Mist, out of the greenhouses of Dr Heals Good Seeds, grown organically outdoors. Second place was hotly contested right down to the wire, in fact the judges couldn't split them, on 34 points, from the well-connected connections of PBB, the indoor entries White Mist and Bubba Kush-Pre 97. In third place on 21 points Lumpy Space Pot, via G. Fourth



place on 20 points was Super Nova from the Yantra Seeds collection. Fifth place went to our local favourite and winner of numerous Cannabis Cups, Rainbow Dreaming X Carrot by Garry Von Billen.

Equally contested and about to be granted ISCC status was the 2014 Nimbin Hashish Dish. This year's competitors, or should I say athletes, ranged from the hard, to soft rub, hard gloop-up to the modern refined honey oil. A high scoring affair which was taken out with 54 points by Mr G. Roover with Ital-Hash, a traditional 'Hard Rock' entry, proudly locally produced from outdoor organically grown Indica/Sativa crosses in the method of our Moroccan brothers and sisters.

Second in the Dish with 51 points came the BHO Honey Oil by our friend Arty. In equal third place on 47 points was the indoor sourced White Rhino hash and the outdoor C5, both produced by the mysterious P3.

The Organisers would like to thank our gracious hosts and faeries for the magnificent venue and endless supply of munchie hors d'oeuvres. Planning is already underway for next year's event, which will welcome entries from more of the local seed and medical cannabis breeders.

Submitted by outta town commentator John Jopkins.

STREET SHUFFLE

Journal of the North Coast's longest serving covert

by Undacuva

It's that revealing time of year again, the ECSUB, East Coast Solstice Undacuva Ball. Always up the Goldie and always debauched and challenging. I'm too deeply into the peace and love persona for most of it, and happy to quietly smoke some freshly confiscated skunk with a few old mates. But one of the Bosses is super pushy. He insists we all drink with him and seemed to be in a throw-away mood, even reckless. Exactly the opposite to Undacuva training, where one slip can unravel the whole garment. Just what America is currently doing to pot prohibition.

"Corruption hash always been part of our culture," he's pissed

and slurring. "Since the Force began when we was paid in rum an' we was taught to make sure you remember who is No 1. Without us the whole show fallsh apart. We're responsible for keeping order, an' ansherable to no-one. So don't tell me we have to change now."

No-one is listening properly, but we pretend, and he keeps on and on like he's the centre of the universe. Half the Unda crew these days are hot fit babes working the night club beats scoring eccies trying to track them to the Source, the Holy Grail. The endless search for Mr Big. As if there is only one.

Hayley, Felicity and Clare slide our way seductively, still in role and looking like they've eaten way too many in the last month. It's not

as if you can turn your character off and on like a tap. Some of the gas Undas are still wearing yellow triangles. People are locked into their chosen personalities, fully immersed. The room looks like a movie set, but for what? There's bikers and molls, gas protest hippies and hookers, junkies and derros, grey alien-watch watchers, sleepers and addicts. Addicts of every kind, which is how so many Undacuvas end up. Only the Boss and a few desk jobs look halfway normal. Any drugs we want are available of course, but few are taking them because we have no idea anymore who to trust. Last year's party was secretly recorded by the Watch Dog so no-one's taking any chances. Or so they'd let you believe. I know different just looking at their pupils.

Then suddenly the drunk Boss gets loud and emotional and we are listening. "Those days are gone. Don't you get it, thash what I'm talking about. The sun is setting

on the stage we once ruled. Now they're checking on us everywhere and who knows who we can trust? Right here in this room, some of you are Dogs and I aim to find out who, right NOW."

There was a sudden shift in temperature and a lot less chatter. I wasn't sure that he didn't glance at me when he said the 'now' bit so loudly, but we're all highly trained in lock-down when we're unda investigation. It's like you seal the door on the shell you're wearing and focus intently on your character.

"One of our own has turned. I undastand his own child is suffering and the hippy herb is easing the family pain, but why tell everyone? We could've supplied him with all he wants, and more. Now they're all over the box, carrying on like they come from the Bin, and we don't have a leg to stand on."

I'm frozen in silence, scarcely breathing. So he did look at me.

He knows I want the weed laws changed and this is what he's griping on about.

"This time nesh year some of you will no longer have a job. Without a war there's no need for soldiers. So it's in your own interest to find out who amongst us is a dog."

There were audible groans from several teeth-grinding bikies at the bar and even some threatening noises. The Boss was too drunk to remember some Undas can't not be in role and the word 'dog' is a lightning rod. He marched on oblivious. "Very easy to disappear in this game, as you know. We all know how Roger..." His words finished abruptly as the biker belted him. Just once, but it was hard, and down he went, like a keg falling off a truck.

The night wound up quickly after that, and we slipped into the dark, many with each other. Undacuvas live for the moment. It's what keeps us all in the game. The adrenalin addiction leaves fags for dead.

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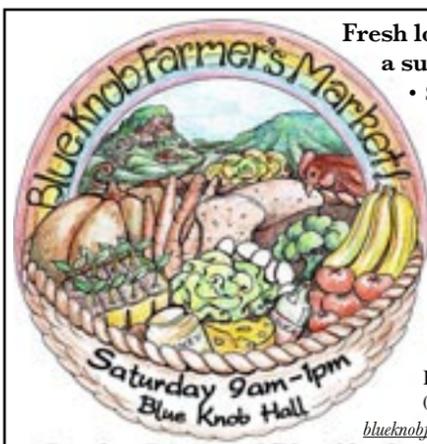
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Blue Knob Hall Gallery



Rainbow Chai Tent (Beanie)
by Megan Jack

Blue Knob Hall Gallery's annual fibre exhibition is currently showing. This year's exhibition has been seen by many people, the work admired by all those who have come from quite far afield.

The installation by local artist Claire L'Arrivee is worth the visit. She has shown how the transformation of the humble fibre can turn into a major work of art, and a thing of beauty.

This annual exhibition is where art becomes wearable, plant fibre becomes functional, threads become stories and fibre is celebrated in all its forms.

This continues to be an inspiring and innovative exhibition and will be running until Sunday 20th July.

Gallery and Cafe News

Due to unavoidable family commitments, the Cafe has functioned

on a limited basis since 19th June. It will continue on through until Thursday 10th July when it will be open again for meals. No meals will be available until that time. We apologise for any inconvenience this may cause.

The Cafe will however be open on Saturday 5th July for coffee and cake during the Farmer's Markets.

• Trash & Treasure

Blue Knob Farmers Market held a Trash & Treasure fundraiser for the Hall on Saturday 21st June. It was a fun, successful day with stalls and an auction. A total of \$1100 was raised, and will go towards the continuing process of building projects and maintenance of the hall.

• Blue Knob Farmers Market annual Pumpkin Festival & Bush Dance

This will be on again at Blue Knob Hall on Saturday 26th July. This is a fundraiser for the Hall and has been a great family day and evening of food and dance for everyone.

Much appreciation goes to the Blue Knob Farmers Market for their continued support of this ever-growing community hall.

• Artists & Friends Lunch

The next one will be on Thursday 24th July at 12.30pm. Cost is \$15 per person for set vegetarian mains and a choice of desserts.

New Gallery and Cafe Opening hours - Thursday 10am-4pm; Friday 10am-2pm; Saturday 8.30am-2pm; Sunday 10am-4pm.

'Fragile Decay'
by Rebekah Archer



'Rainforest meets Ocean'
weaving by Deb McFarlane



The Unique Signatures of Paul Roguszka



'The Tardis', and with door open

Paul Roguszka is a self-taught woodworker with a background in fine art. With a passion for timber, especially the rare timbers from the rainforest trees of his home territory of Northern NSW, Paul's studio workshop has become a repository for a comprehensive collection of native timbers rescued and salvaged from around the region.

Paul uses these materials as his palette in crafting unique, whimsical objects that can be both sculptural and functional. Colour tone and mass together with carved and geometric forms enhance the sublime experience of each of the timbers and finished objects. They also demonstrate the relationship which develops between the materials and the maker, the crafting and the design.

The source of Paul's inspiration is elusive. Sometimes a particular piece of wood talks to him and a cabinet is born. Sometimes a vague thread of an idea must be started and unravelled. His drive comes from the joy of creating. There are few if any preliminary sketches, just an idea: decisions are made and problems solved as the work progresses. Paul says, "Each piece is a journey through an unexplored wilderness - a journey taken with the materials and entwined with the power of creative realisation."

Paul's exhibition presents pieces with exteriors that invite the

exploration for a hidden treasure. Often an alternative inner character floods the visual with memory and warped time. Pieces from the recent "Caldera" series and his latest "Fantasy" series bring to life themes found in fairytale and myth.

Is it art? Perhaps not in the strict sense, but neither is it solely craft. Paul sees his work as "exploring the 'littoral' zones between fine art and craft". It's all generated from an artful place though - the inherent potential of the materials, the relationship between the maker and that spark of inspiration.

The work speaks for itself. Whether you like beautiful whimsical objects, or are more interested in the meticulous detail of the workmanship, the sculptural forms, patterns and carving captivate on all levels.

Paul's work is unique, and because it is presented as furniture, it gives us permission to delight with it in a very intimate way.

See Paul Roguszka's exhibition 'Unique Signatures' at The Channon Gallery until 13th July.

'The Tower', and with door open



Nimbin Artists Gallery

by Peter Ptschelinzew

At our most recent changing, Nimbin Artists Gallery was pleased to welcome Lee Ryan as a guest artist. Lee, who has never shown her work before, is a TAFE student and ceramicist from Lismore whose work has been immediately popular.

If you think you could use one of her lovely hangers for a small plant or candle, you'd better get down to the gallery. There's also a selection of tumblers and, if you're lucky, perhaps a small bowl still to be had.

And if you come in on a Monday, there's a good chance you'll see Rod Johnston behind the desk, at work on



'Decadence And Deformity'
by Rod Johnston

one of his sculptures. He started working in soapstone, which has quite a different texture and feel, as well as colour, to his more usual sandstone or limestone. We also have his work in the latter, but don't worry, they're all "Rod".

A reminder to all artists that the Spring Arts, run by the School of Arts, is not far away. It will happen during the September school holidays, so get creative! Application forms will be available soon both in the gallery and at Perceptio's, who will accept bookings as usual.



by Lee Ryan

So, hard as it is, drag yourself out of the spectacular winter sunshine that we've been having, and come in to the gallery for a look (the heater will be going). There's sure to be something of interest. If you need a gift for a friend and can't decide, we now have gift cards you can buy. Let them decide take the stress off yourself!

Bentley Art Prize: entries close this month

The 30th Annual Bentley Art Prize will be held in the Bentley Public Hall (midway between Lismore and Kyogle) on 1st, 2nd and 3rd August. Over \$8,500 in prizemoney is on offer.

This year, the theme for the drawing class is "Seascape", using Grafite, Charcoal, Ink or Conte.

Entry forms are now available at most art galleries, visitor centres, picture framing businesses, libraries and Council Chambers. Entries close 23rd July.

For more information, contact Helen Trustum on 6663-5283, email: helen-trustum@hotmail.com or visit the website: www.bentleyartprize.com.au



Curator Helen Trustum

Wild Things

The Roxy Gallery will be hosting an exhibition titled 'Wild Things' by Barbara Murray and Evelyn O'Neill until 26th July.

With a long term friendship both these women have been living on farms in the Northern Rivers Region from the family farms of their childhood to the farms they purchased and moved onto in their married lives. Along with raising children and farming the land, they have both pursued their interests in creating art from an early age of exploring mark making in the sands of our local beaches to collecting found objects from their farm environments.

Evelyn and Barbara were introduced to the basic mediums of watercolour, charcoal and pencils and began making art on found objects from a very early age. Now in their latter days, their art making has developed with technology, from using a Box Brownie camera to a digital camera, painting on canvas board to stretched canvas. Both replicate the beauty of flora and fauna that surrounded and so inspired them as schoolgirls.



'Rosellas in the Silky Oak' by Evelyn O'Neill

This developing passion for artistic expression focused primarily on ornithology and detailed studies of nature. Both Evelyn and Barbara are known locally for their magnificent studies of local wrens and finches.

As the years progressed, both women's innate desire and need to depict the sublime beauty of the North Coast and its surrounds, has been articulated in watercolour paintings, oil paintings, pencil sketches, woodblock printmaking, poker art and woodcraft.

Evelyn and Barbara have invested an enormous amount of their time in local community events that showcase the arts, such as the local country shows, where they have both provided judging support and actively encouraged younger people to engage in presenting their works in such events. Both are long-term supporters of Kyogle and Districts Arts Council and have been regular exhibitors in group shows over the years and the Roxy Gallery.

'Wild Things' represents a culmination of many years of dedicated art practice, skill development and lust for the beauty in nature.



'The Family' by Barbara Murray

The Art of Resistance

The Bentley blockade was an opportunity to exhibit to the greater public and the NSW Parliament, non-violent techniques on pressing environmental issues affecting the health of our air, water and earth.

Artists and songwriters demonstrated a range of notable examples in getting attention for peace and environmental issues, many of which have now been collected together for an exhibition.

'Protest Songs: Artful Actions', on show at the Lismore Regional Gallery from 19th July to 7th September, will include artifacts, clips and photographs from the Bentley Blockade.

Curator Kezia Geddes said, "It will include artists and activists who use art or creative means to give visibility to issues."

The exhibition will include works by local activists with national profile, such as veteran activist Benny Zable and the

Knitting Nannas, as well as political posters, David McDiarmid's Rainbow Aphorisms, ABC NT footage of the Yirrkala Bark Petitions, YouTube clips – as well as powerful images by several photographers.

"This exhibition shows that art, far more than putting a mirror to the world, can get among the politics of a time and help to change things for the better," Kezia said.

There will also be representation of Bentley protectors at the upcoming Climate Change protest in New York City, expected to be one of the largest ever held.

Benny Zable will be attending as part of his annual pilgrimage to the Big Apple and Woodstock, and will also attend a number of major events are being planned to signal an end of the fossil fuel era.

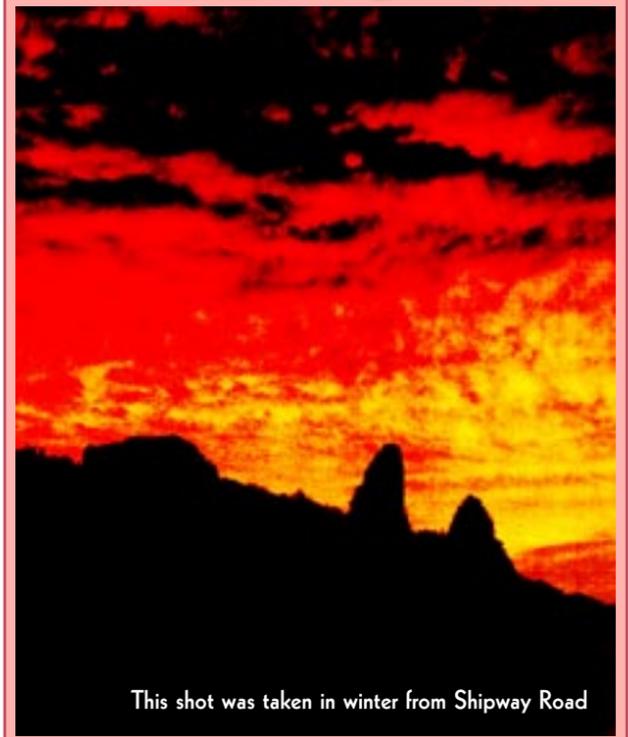
Benny said, "Just as at Bentley, we do



not know when a major tipping point of consciousness will happen. One thing is definite, the melting of the ice caps is not easing up, and will threaten a great deal of coastal regions around the world.

"Tony Abbott and his ilk are on a losing streak. Sadly, so is the survival of many critters..."

Nosin' Around with PAC



This shot was taken in winter from Shipway Road

A Frolic with Felt

A series of contemporary textile workshops with internationally recognised textile artist Susan Fell-Mclean

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Cost \$295 for full course (deposit required), or \$110 per single session. Includes luscious lunch and morning tea. Materials costs by dry weight: approx \$40 – \$55

Contact Susan 0427-355-629
susan@gondwanatextiles.com



Unique Signatures Paul Roguszka in Exhibition



The Channon Gallery
Open Wed – Sunday
14 June – 13 July 2014

www.thechannongallery.com
www.woodworkpaul.com

Paul Roguszka with
Caldera Screen