Invest in our farming future

by Adam Guise, Greens candidate for Lismore

In August I travelled to Gunnedah for AgQuip, the largest agricultural field day in the southern hemisphere. I volunteered with colleagues at the Country Greens stall and was pleasantly surprised by the interest farmers showed in the Greens’ agricultural and rural land use policies. I talked with coal miners (some who are also farmers), broadacre croppers, graziers, market gardeners, and orchardists. They all agreed times were tough and it seemed all the harder to make a buck from farming. This made me reflect.

Farmers are feeling the pinch in every direction. They’re feeling it in increased farm input costs, such as labour, electricity, and fertilisers. From lower farm gate prices, caused by the diabolical power of large supermarkets and ‘free’ trade agreements which leave no bargaining power for small producers. They’re feeling it from climate change-induced weather events, which has seen the longest period of dry in a century (but not now), and brought more unpredictability to critical weather patterns. They’re feeling abandoned by politicians whose relationship with the fossil fuel industry is threatening their ability to access clean water, land and air, and is encroaching on their property boundaries.

It shouldn’t have to be this way. Farmers are the backbone of a healthy community and a strong economy. The challenge of the 21st century is strengthening food and water security, and farmers are on the frontline. We must support them in this endeavour, which inevitably means assigning a greater value to what they do. Governments shouldn’t be cutting funding to agricultural extension officers or programs like Landcare and Caring for Country.

Nor should we allow the last of our agricultural land to be turned into coal mines or gas fields, as is happening on the Liverpool Plains, Gloucester and (unless licences are cancelled) the Northern Rivers. Instead we should be clearly delineating no go zones, taxing mining appropriately and investing in farming for the future. After all, we can’t eat coal and we can’t drink gas, and after it’s gone, what have we left?

As a health conscious region where people enthusiastically support farmers’ markets, the last thing anyone wants to see is farmers driven to the wall and locally grown produce replaced by questionable imports. Unless we support keeping farmers on the land, farmers will be faced with tough choice of selling up, potentially to gas companies keen to promulgate the myth of co-existence.

As a community we can support farmers by buying local produce that returns a fair price to the farmer. Government policy should push for a renewable energy future to mitigate climate change impacts, and support resilient farming practices that buffer against extreme weather. The support we give to our largest land managers in the state will benefit our region economically and environmentally. Healthy, local communities depend on nutritious food and clean water, so let’s support farmers in this vital work.

We will all be the richer for it.


Vanessa (Lismore City Council) on 1300 87 83 87.

Nimbin Annual Country Show

It is still not too late (we are willing to be flexible around close dates – within reason) to get your entries in for Most Sustainable in Show. Can be individual produce or whole/piece of a farm operation. Food or fibre.

Local Food Foods short film competition. Anything to do with local food. Max 15 mins. Details and entry forms available on our website and at NNIC. www.nnic.org.au

Nimbin Main Street businesses

Don’t forget to enter the Best Show-Themed Shop Display. Can you wrestle the trophy from last year’s winner the Nimbin Bakery! Simply set up your display by Monday 15th September. Displays will be judged in the week before the show. There has never been a better time to dress up our main street for a bit of an all-round cheer-up!

Also – remember to enter your produce, baked goods and arts/crafts into this year’s Nimbin Show. Simply bring your entries to the pavilion on Friday 19th September before 10.30am.

Struggling with unpaid fines?

You may be eligible to apply for a Work Development Order which enables you to pay your fines down by doing volunteer work at NNIC. Make an appointment with one of our Community Workers to find out if you are eligible.

Nimbin Neighbourhood and Information Centre news

Nimbin Neighbourhood and Information Centre (NNIC) is a local charity and community organisation run by locals for locals, and is funded by NSW FocCS as a Community Hub. Our main service delivery role is to provide information and referrals to disadvantaged community members. For information about all services available in Nimbin, Lismore or the Northern Rivers region, drop into NNIC and ask at our front desk or else make an appointment with our Community Workers for referrals, support and assistance including material aid. If we can’t help, we probably know who can.

nimbin.goodtimes@gmail.com

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

Zee Book Exchange

Driveway & Landscaping Supplies

TERETRE Retreat – NIMBIN

• CDs and DVDs
• Old and New Books

We sell and exchange:

Nimbin Community Centre, Room A2

TERETRE Retreat – NIMBIN

Overnight or Weekly – Wheelchair Access

TERETRE Retreat – NIMBIN

Nimbin Community Centre, Room A2

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Nimbin Community Centre, Room A2
From the mayor's desk

by Cr Jenny Dowell

Cullen Street Fire

The news that rocked Nimbin on August 13 has affected residents and businesses in the village in a myriad of ways. It has also had an impact around the nation and the world, such is the significance of Nimbin and its Aquarius history.

After the initial shock and the praise for the wonderful fire crews from near and far that saved the fire from spreading, the realisation of what has been lost starts to resonate. While we might first think of the museum and its lost heritage, there are also the 30 or more jobs that are suddenly gone.

It is the nature of a disaster that there are people who want restoration as quickly as possible to return life to the way it was, but setting aside jokes about what is ‘normal’ in Nimbin, things can never be the same again. That’s not to say what will rise from the ashes will be a shadow of the former, but it will be different. New building codes, the owner’s wants and the community’s wishes need to come together in a plan that meets the interests of the village. That will not be a quick process, and Council will have a role to play.

So far, I think communication has been timely and open. I urge everyone to continue in that manner to ensure the inevitable frustrations and the lingering sense of loss are acknowledged. Recovery will take time, but already I’m sensing the passion of Nimbin to not just restore what is lost but to make it better. I can assure you that Council is committed to assist where we can.

Funderaiser

The Nimbin community is renowned for coming together to raise funds for all sorts of community projects. The latest is the planned event ‘Restore the Heart’, to be held at Peace Park on September 27. I am hoping to attend and provide some support.

Community donations

To end August, Council hosted its annual ceremony for community donations of cheques and computers. Among the 13 cheque recipients were Friends of Nimbin Pool, receiving $350 and Nimbin Community Centre, given the maximum $2200. Nimbin Community Centre, Nimbin Neighbourhood and Information Centre and Nimbin Preschool each received a computer and software.

I am therefore hosting a forum for women who might think about standing or who would like to support a woman candidate. The non-party-political forum is open to any woman from Lismore, Byron, Ballina, Kyogle or Richmond Valley Council areas and will start at 5pm for a cuppa and tea accompanied by an auction from 5:30-6:30pm.

In that time there will be a presentation, a panel of female Councillors and a discussion. Afterwards, women will be encouraged to link up with a sitting Councillor and start learning more in order to be able to make an informed decision about standing in 2016.


Simon says...

by Cr Simon Clough, Lismore City Council

I was on the scene on the morning of the Nimbin fire. It was very confronting to see the extent of the damage, and heart-breaking to see as many people shocked and stunned by the damage. The Rural Fire Service had done an amazing job limiting the fire to three shops.

It was also good to see lots of Lismore City Council staff including the general manager heavily engaged in securing the site and ensuring safety. Our mayor Jenny Dowell was fortunate enough to be at the scene on the morning of the fire. The authors believe that the whole network, Melbourne to Brisbane could be delivered in 10 years and would cost $30 billion less than the costing from the previous Commonwealth Government.

Lismore would be the third stop going south, i.e. Brisbane, Gold Coast then Lismore. The location of the Lismore HSZ station is shown on the south side of the showgrounds adjacent to the existing rail line, which could be used for local connecting services. The time shown is the first train leaving Lismore at 5.59am and arriving at Sydney Central at 8.33am. That’s 2.5 hours. There are three hourly trains thereafter until 10pm. Going north it would be 45 minutes to Brisbane and 20 minutes to Nerang. Fares have been estimated at roughly 2/3 of current air fares. The table on page 19 shows 1.1 million passengers moving through Lismore HSZ station per annum.

The proposed HSZ network work can be powered by 100% renewable energy. It is estimated that greenhouse gas emissions from regional travel would be reduced by 150 million tonnes of carbon dioxide equivalent over 40 years of operation compared with business-as-usual. Emissions created from the HSZ construction would be offset after 5 years. $84 billion is the total estimated construction cost including rolling stock, project management and contingency.

I am therefore hosting a forum for local candidates who want to help you. In NSW less than 27% of Councillors are women. To maximise the effectiveness of Councils, that percentage needs to increase.

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The Casino Goodtimes

Gratitude across generations

by Daniel John

Sometimes we forget about the important relationships between our generations, which imbue our community with a subtle yet omnipresent sense of what is good. Richmond Valley Council’s recent change in position – now rejecting unconventional gas mining – reminded me of the way we bequest and inherit these relationships. As a younger person, I’ve moved to write publicly on behalf of a younger generation who were actually born here in the bosom of our Northern Rivers, often of parents who have come to know this beautiful place as home, since their birth. I’m writing to say a big warm collective thank you!

There are many senior protectors who’ve guided my young emotions and who I look up to, and they know who they are. But unlike any others, the Richmond Valley Group Against Gas (RVGAG) and their supporters have been battling the most belligerent Council in our Northern Rivers, while often in political and, at times, community isolation. With the odds stacked against them, this small group of committed citizens has summoned something beyond the belligerence, something beyond recognition.

Belligerence is not a word I’ve chosen lightly. Having my entire childhood and adolescence in the Richmond Valley’s Doubtful Creek farming community, belligerence was like the water that I, a small fish, learned to swim in – swim or sink. If you can follow the metaphor, you’ll appreciate how normalised the belligerence or ‘bullying’ has become for us younger fish who know nothing else. Asking for a ‘gasfield free Northern Rivers’ can be like asking a fish to fly, especially if the fish has only ever known the murky waters of a belligerent society, economy, and Council. But learn to fly, we must. And so it has been largely with personal shame, that I’ve watched, silently supporting the champions of RVGAG, knowing I should be more involved, but never really being able to see or act beyond what was ‘normal’. I feel I speak for many of our younger generations when I say that we are indebted, but also in awe. Last month’s Council meeting for example, demonstrated this profoundly. For when we listen to the voices of Jill Lyons, Liz Stops, Bev Crossley, Eric van Beurden and many many others who stand and speak in public, yet again, to a seemingly belligerent Council, we are all being gifted with not simply an important message about what’s right, but actually a powerful message about how to be right. You are heard.

As news came through of their most recent achievement, I felt mostly speechless, though desperately I wanted to express my gratitude, for an enduring resilience, determination, and courage, over many years, I wanted the community to know, that the achievements of RVGAG and their many supporters (both public and private) are not just victories for essential environmental protection, but are ultimately empowering for our community’s younger generations, who will inherit that protection for a timeless Richmond Valley. No salary package will ever buy that kind of empowerment. We’ve been watching.

For the first time in my short lifetime, I am trying to see voices speak against a belligerent normality. For the first time, I have a tangible reason to believe that something other, beyond belligerence might (once again?) govern social normality in our beautiful Richmond Valley. To see and believe in something for the first time in one’s life is nothing short of revolutionary, and speaks to the epic saga that RVGAG and their closest supporters have endured. You inspire us.

The Richmond Valley Council will never be the same again on this issue, nor should they. The younger generations of our sacred Richmond Valley and Northern Rivers are grateful beyond words, not just for a healthier and safer future, but for the courageous and authentic leadership flowing from our senior generations – our elders – who continue to show us the way.
Kyogle Council

Kyogle notebook

You’ll all be pleased to know that time for change is here, to export product grown in the ground, not mined from it,” he said. “The seminar comes as a call to action. The next mayoral meeting will be held on Friday, 15th August, to discuss the matter further. If a mayoral meeting will be held on 15th September at this stage. Depending upon the outcome, I’ll be able to advise you as to whether the crossing is raised next week.

Ms Windrose introduced the Water Trigger Amendment to the Environmental Protection Biodiversity and Conservation Legislation (EPBC) towards the end of the previous Parliament and received majority support.

The Amendment allows for impacts on global seashore gas and large coal mining developments on water resources to be comprehensively assessed at the national level and gives the National Minister the capacity to set water condition parts of the approval processes. The fully funded Independent Expert Scientific Committee (IESC) has also been established to provide transparent advice to the process.

The National Government is attempting to water down the water trigger under the guise of removing red tape and supposedly delivering a one stop shop, but we need it to be part of the law.

Former Member for New England, Tony Windrose (pictured) has urged Senate cross benchers to retain the so-called water trigger ‘when debate on the issue is raised next week.

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We have in this region a unique opportunity to offer our young people a chance to get off the hamster wheel that Abbott and Hockey have in mind for them. We have vast tracts of very fertile high rainfall land in the Northern Rivers held by rural landshare communities and associated tree changers, much of it being overhanded by weeds as landholders become older.

We have a vicious anti – youth federal government and a Northern Rivers region with a capacity to help that generation live with dignity, learn new survival skills and negotiate their own terms of engagement with the mainstream economy.

Young people need not ‘drop out’ in the 1970s sense, they can still pursue education, work and jobs, but they need a safe and low cost base to do this from. But what we may be able to help them do is to give them one leg up, which has been transformed from welfare into control.

I believe we have not just the capacity but also a duty to offer some opportunities to today’s young people to build some personal resilience and a collective safety net, a uniquely Northern Rivers set.

We faced with the prospect of working for no dole, and pointlessly applying for non-existent jobs, young people are rapidly being forced into a choice between charity and crime. The social consequences of going down the US road and criminalising and imprisoning an emerging generation are catastrophic for our whole society. The Aquarian vision of resilience, sustainability and low cost living had an ageless wisdom that is now urgently needed.

Obviously it’s not a solution that can suit all young people but there are sure to be enough who see the sense in it. So are the older generation of Australian tree changers ready to open our farms up? I understand the fear people may have of the extra red tape, the tripwires on their farms (God forbid they would be anything like we were) but let’s not be so stereotypical. I’m very impressed with today’s young people and we already have a working model for accommodation for a moderate amount of work in the form of The WWOOF (working on organic farms) system. This is not a naïve suggestion, its not for everyone, it’s only for those who can drink the ‘green Kool-Aid’ and desire to take part, it’s not a free ride but it’s an opportunity to build skills, live in community and live inexpensively.

Keep the water trigger – states can’t be trusted.

Fuller information in relation to the recent Federal Attorney General’s statement on the Murray Darling Basin Plan, and the viciousness of the Abbott Government to push the gap between the ‘have’ and ‘have nots’ into an unbridgeable divide.

The viciousness of the Abbott Government to push the gap between the ‘have’ and ‘have nots’ into an unbridgeable divide.

The loss of faith by the public at large, the community will eventually lose confidence in their government if they don’t have the confidence of the community will eventually fail. We need to maintain this independent process that people trust.

Those who believe that retaining Commonwealth legislation will lead to a quicker approval process will be sadly disappointed. The Senate doesn’t have the confidence of the community that will eventually fail. We need to maintain this independent process that people trust.

“You give me the power to get off the hamster wheel and reassess their life, their values and their strategies for survival. I’m sure this has already started (it never stopped re-setting) and think we need to start thinking about this more seriously as a region, wide contribution we can make to the state and national agenda, and work with our young people to give them real choices and dignity. Let’s not be so stereotypical. I’m impressed with today’s young people and we already have a working model for accommodation for a moderate amount of work in the form of The WWOOF (working on organic farms) system. This is not a naïve suggestion, its not for everyone, it’s only for those who can drink the ‘green Kool-Aid’ and desire to take part, it’s not a free ride but it’s an opportunity to build skills, live in community and live inexpensively.

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September 1pm gig start

7th Telegraph Tower
A folk-influenced duo: guitar, vocals and cello from Byron Bay

14th Shunya
Former Light Activation and Suaveamente guitarist Rich Bell unveils his spacious new album, “This Vast Mystery”

21st Priestessa & Dash
The music of Priestessa & Dash is built on the old fashioned notions of songcraft, lyrical integrity and endless harmony

28th Black Vat & Ruthie-Ma-Toothe
Sydney-based three piece, playing klezmer, Romani, trad inspired-original folk tunes.

Shunya and friends

In tantra yoga, the Sanskrit concept “shunya” refers to the void at the end of the breath. In music, it is the space between the notes. Shunya the musician (aka Rich Bell, pictured) unveils his spacious new album This Vast Mystery at the serene Sphinx Rock Cafe on Sunday 14th September from 1pm.

The Channon open mic

The Channon Open Mic was successfully launched on Sunday 24th August at The Channon Butter Factory Tavern. The weather leading up to the event dictated an indoor set-up on the back veranda of the Tavern. Ironically it was quite a sunny afternoon, however the smaller space made for a more intimate experience with greater interaction between performers and audience.

Among the performers was young songstress Clee Worts, who recently won the 2014 Young Female Songwriter of the Year award in the Lismore City Council/Headspace Young Songwriter’s Competition. As well as regulars from our previous The Channon Folk Club two new performers, Phil from Nimbin and Robbie from Byron, were well received.

Local regular guitarist, Glen, surprised everyone with the great sound he managed to produce from a slide guitar he made using an old piece of 4 x 2 hardwood and other, mostly scavenged, materials. The next Open Mic will be held on Sunday 28th September. Hope to see you there. Resonant regards.

Going for baroque

Telegraph Tower is a folk-influenced duo who take their cue from seminal artists of the sixties such as John Martyn, Bert Jansch, Richard Thompson, Tim Hardin, Jethro Tull and the Incredible String Band.

Comprised of Byron-based Barnaby Smith (vocals, guitar) and Oliver Downes (cello), they released an EP last year entitled Concurrence, which they toured throughout NSW.

With songs literate, moody, melodic and baroque, Concurrence was described by Mess & Noise as “an assorted bleakness... these songs are not as well-mannered as they seem” and by Alt Media as “an intriguing effort... there are greater things to come”.

The duo will be performing at Sphinx Rock Cafe on Sunday 7th September.

More information can be found at: www.telegraphtower.bandcamp.com and /facebook.com/telegraphtower

Sharny Russell and Liz Lord

Sharny Russell and Elizabeth Lord present a Tribute to Sarah Vaughan and Carmen McRae on Sunday 28th September, 2pm-5pm at Lismore City Bowling Club. Admission: $15 / $10 Members

It’s a warm welcome back to the Lismore Jazz Club for Sharny Russell and Liz Lord, two of Australia’s finest jazz vocalists. Individually, they’ve performed with the who’s who of Australia’s jazz men and women, along with many international greats.

The musical and emotional range of their voices, coupled with their seductive flair for the jazz standard, will lift the performance beyond being a tribute to two of the music world’s best jazz divas.

Joining Sharny and Liz on the bandstand will be long-time musical allies Steve Russell on piano, Jack Thorncraft, upright bass, Dave Saunders, drums, with special guest John Hoffman on flugelhorn. No strangers to the LJC, and musicians who need no introduction at any ‘big city’ jazz party. Simple the best.

We’re privileged to be living in an area where ‘top shelf’ musicians who need no introduction at any ‘big city’ jazz party. Simple the best.

Black Vat Trio

Black Vat Trio are a Sydney-based three piece that bring you delightful classic klezmer and Romani gypsy tunes, as well as original polkas and sea-shanties with their own thumping Eastern European-inspired fare. A rare act, and a must see.

They will be appearing with their good friends Ruthie-Ma-Toothe, a gorgeous Lismore-based two-piece outfit that take their favourite songs of yesteryear and give them a twist. They put jazz into Country and Country back into Jazz. Tunes range from gypsy-like versions of Elsa Fitzgerald to spaghetti western interpretations of Townes Van Zandt songs to Hank Williams as you have never heard him before.

Black Vat Trio and Ruthie-Ma-Toothe will be playing Lismore Bowling Club, 27th September at 8pm and Sphinx Rock Cafe on Sunday 26th September from 1pm.

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Also raised about $3000 towards the local Northern Rivers Mick Daley and headline act The New Christs. Around 300 punters braved the wet weather on August 23 and headed to Nimbin's Italo-Australia Club to enjoy a smorgasbord of musical acts and cabaret performances including MC S Sorrensen, Davey Bob Ramsay, James Brook, Mick Daley and headline act The New Christs. The gig was a protest against the Abbott government and also raised about $3000 towards the local Northern Rivers Greens next year’s state election campaign.

Get into Spring Arts

Nimbin artists are invited to register for the Spring Arts Exhibition asap to avoid disappointment. Application forms are available at Perceptio’s Bookshop and the Nimbin Art Gallery. Artworks will be received on Thursday 18th and Friday 19th September for the exhibition, which will open on 20th September and run daily until Monday 6th October.

Medical Cannabis: State of the Nation

The legalisation of cannabis use for the terminally ill is set to become an election issue in Victoria, and of late, federal and state members of parliament have set the issue firmly on the political agenda. Federal Government MP Warren Entsch from Queensland is one of a multi-party group of federal MPs who are working on a bill that, if passed, will allow cannabis oil to be used in the treatment of illnesses including cancer, multiple sclerosis and epilepsy on a trial basis. Entsch says that if the trials are successful, there would be a bill calling for the legalisation of medical marijuana and for it to be added to the Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme. He may have some opposition, because Tony Abbott has already said no to the Noorlidal Island initiative, and says that while the Drug War might be unwinnable, it is still a battle that must be fought.

ACT Greens have a proposal to legalise medical cannabis that would allow terminally and chronically illCanberrans to grow marijuana and use the drug to alleviate their pain and symptoms. Greens minister Shane Rattenbury will release new draft laws and a discussion paper for community feedback on the proposal on Monday. The laws would allow people with a terminal or chronic illness to access medical marijuana without fear of being prosecuted.

The New South Wales Premier says the state might allow the terminally ill to use cannabis. Mike Baird says it is ‘sympathetic’ to the push to legalise marijuana for medicinal use, but is concerned about how to regulate and safely supply the drug. Lucy Haslam has been campaigning from Tamworth on behalf of her son, who has cancer and uses cannabis to mitigate the effects of the treatment. The bill will be presented as a private member’s bill by Tamworth’s local Nationals MP, Kevin Anderson, and the Premier says he will support it.

In Victoria, Opposition Leader Daniel Andrews said cannabis would be available for medical treatment if Labor gained office in November. Overseas medical trials have shown marijuana to be helpful in the treatment of chronic pain, multiple sclerosis, cerebral palsy, cancer and the side effects of chemotherapy.

In Tasmania, suggestions that cannabis could be grown by existing opium farmers under parallel legislation were blocked by the Primary Industries Minister who said opium producers were against it. Despite protestations from the opium industry that this was not correct, the Minister stuck to his decision. He was supported by the current government.

South Australian Premier Jay Weatherill has said that his government was open to the idea for seriously ill people. If there is a serious medical condition put forward that is backed by sensible medical research, then it is something the government would consider,” he said. The Premier’s comments will encourage Greens MP Tammy Franks, who says she will move a motion when parliament resumes next month for a debate on the issue. Family First member Denis Hood will, of course, oppose it.

In Australia’s Labor opposition leader Mark McGowan says, ‘I want to allow pharmaceutical or medicinal cannabis to be prescribed under the strict supervision of a medical practitioner for the relief of pain, vomiting, nausea and poor appetite in terminally or chronically ill people.’ He also said, ‘Why should anyone suffer in agony if there’s another way to relieve their pain? It make it absolutely clear; this would be strictly controlled and monitored,” Mr McGowan stressed he was against recreational cannabis.

The Northern Territory is considering legalising marijuana for medical use under a bold plan being explored by the CLP Government. Health Minister Robyn Lambley said a submission would be made to cabinet in the next six to eight weeks to support further investigation. “It’s very important to differentiate between recreational and medical marijuana. I don’t support the use of recreational marijuana in any way,” Ms Lambley said. “The only way we would support marijuana use is for medical purposes, under a highly regulated regime.”

In Queensland, Nudgee MP Jason Woodford said he was moved to take a stand reading the story of epileptic eight-year-old Tara O’Connell’s recovery. Mr Woodford said he not advocating legalising cannabis, but rather to trial the use of a medicinal version like the one used by the O’Connell family. A spokesperson for Health Minister Lawrence Springborg said the Minister was not currently considering such a trial.
The Roxy Gallery is proud to announce the first solo exhibition of Rodney Brown. “Going it alone in the world of visual arts means exposing yourself to the eye of the beholder, really it’s that the only way art can be seen anyway, but we don’t know what that eye brings with it. Perhaps they will see what I see, perhaps they will see something I don’t see, either way it is somewhat of a gamble and definitely a challenge.”

Rodney's exploration into visual arts has been a lifetime preoccupation, culminating in this body of work. He has succeeded in producing an inspiring body of work after an 18 month concerted effort of painting frenzy and creative activity. It seems that his subjects have always been subordinate to the process of painting. With his focus and fascination on the "how" as opposed to the "why" of painting.

With his subject directly taken from the world around him, he has captured scenes from the window and images from his wanderings, combining the man-made and nature-made images and composing them together. From still life to vast vistas, back streets and old sheds. It seems anything that his eyes fell upon was considered fair game. “To me art is a conscious expression of the beholder.”

Rodney Brown’s exhibition ‘Scenes from my window and my wanderings’ opens on 2nd October, 2014 and each is perfect in its moment. This is an ongoing commitment. It seems that his subjects have always been subordinate to the process of painting. With his focus and fascination on the "how" as opposed to the "why" of painting.

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