



# THE NIMBIN GOODTIMES

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## PROTESTORS COULD FACE NEW FINES

by Bob Dooley

Eco-warriors throughout the Northern Rivers are concerned about the possible impact of new regulations governing access to and conduct on public land.

The legislation, called the *Crown Land Management Regulation 2018*, came into effect on 1st July, and contains stiff penalties for a range of offences, including obstructing authorised persons or interfering with machinery.

The NSW Auditor-General's department has said Crown land comprises 42% of all land in NSW, and includes parks, open spaces, forests, roadsides and sportsfields.

Protestors seeking to halt the construction of a mobile phone tower on private land at Lillian Rock have occupied a tent site on the road verge for the past month, and are now considering their options.

Law lecturer Aidan Ricketts has described the new regulations as "a wholesale attack on the tradition of democracy."

Read Aidan Rickett's article on page 13.



The protest camp at Lillian Rock

## Community agitated by traffic calming device



Photo: Chibo Mertineit

A traffic calming device installed in Cecil Street, Nimbin has raised the ire of residents.

The obstruction, consisting of a short concrete median strip, was erected by Lismore Council contractors at the end of March, in response to concerns about cars speeding along the narrow road.

One problem with the installation is that, as there is no footpath, pedestrians are forced to walk on the road, including parents and children who use the nearby preschool.

At least one minor accident has occurred at the site by a driver swerving to avoid pedestrians.

Another problem is that the median strip is located adjacent

to a gate at the Showground which provides access to the cattle trucks that bring livestock exhibits to the annual Country Show.

Neighbouring property owner, Peter Robinson said, "It has caused more problems than it has fixed."

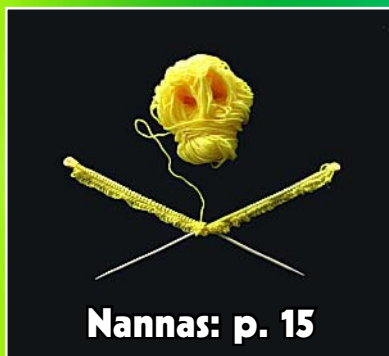
He has been in discussion with Council executive staff, and it has been agreed to shorten the median by two-thirds to improve large vehicle access to the Showground gate.

Council's Traffic Advisory Committee has approved the installation of another traffic calming device further along the road, and the addition of rumble strips, signage and yellow line-marking to both.

Works are funded and scheduled to commence in August. In the meantime, people using the road are urged to take extreme caution.



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