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Have your say on NCCI grounds redevelopment plans



by Rain Wickham
Digital communications manager

Nimbin Community Centre is inviting members, tenants and community members to come along to a community consultation opportunity to view and provide feedback on proposed grounds redevelopment plans for 81 Cullen Street.

The consultation will be held on Sunday 28th June, from 10am to 12pm, in the Dance Studio at Nimbin

Community Centre.

This consultation will give community members an opportunity to look over the current landscape plans for the 81 Cullen Street grounds and share comments, suggestions and ideas about how the space may be used, cared for and developed into the future.

The plans relate specifically to the grounds at 81 Cullen Street and do not include Birth & Beyond or Aquarius Park.

NCCI will also have its broader

action plan available on the day for people to look at. While the action plan does not specifically guide the grounds redevelopment, it provides useful context about NCCI's wider work, priorities and future direction.

NCCI is keen to hear from anyone who cares about the future of the Community Centre grounds, and how this important community space can continue to support Nimbin into the future.

All welcome.

Support your radio community

by Neil Amor

Community radio in Australia traces its origins to the groundbreaking decision by the Whitlam Government in 1974 to establish a third broadcasting sector, complementing the national (ABC) and commercial broadcasters.

This decision was a revolutionary moment for Australian media, enabling local voices, grassroots organisations and under-represented communities to have a platform.

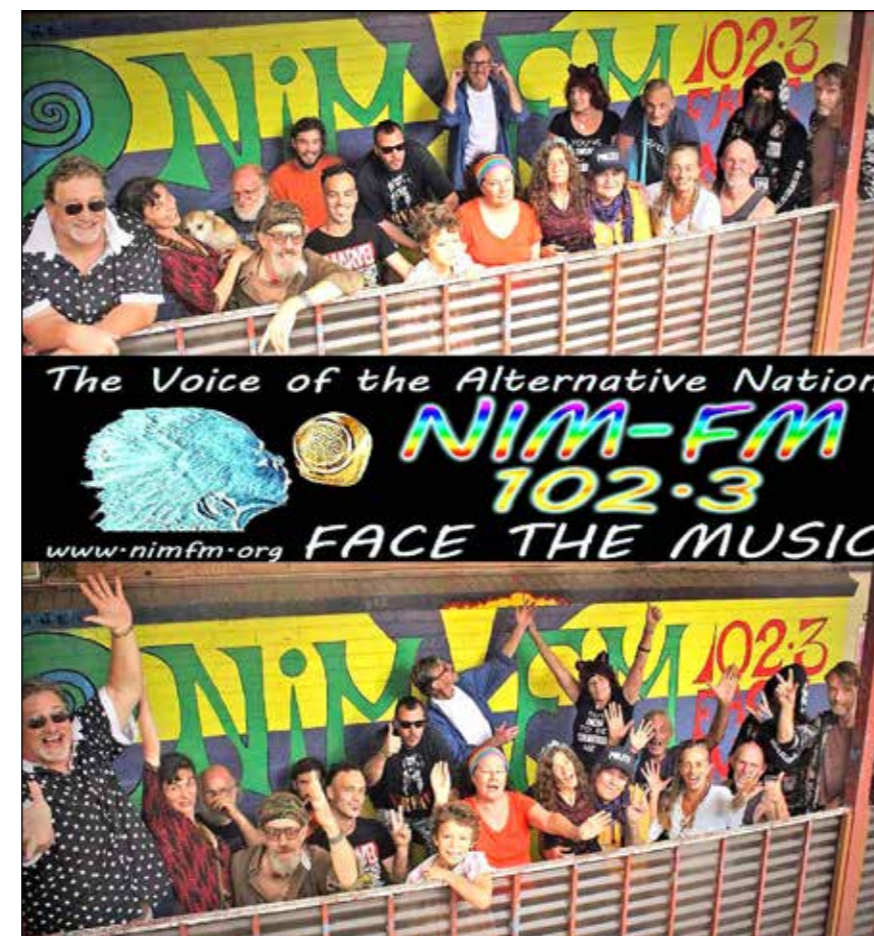
The establishment of community radio stations across Australia, including Nim-FM, was driven by the principle of inclusivity. The 1974 Cabinet decision envisaged licenses being allocated to groups that were often overlooked by mainstream media, such as speakers of languages other than English, Indigenous communities, and those who were socially or economically marginalised.

These values have remained at the core of community radio ever since. Today, there are more than 500 community radio stations across the country, reaching over five million people weekly.

28 years in the making, Nim-FM has presented a range of programmes, from Jesus to Satan, over the decades. Currently around 50 presenters give their time and efforts informing and entertaining the community, and thanks to on-line, far beyond.

First Nations have featured heavily in our programming over the years, as have German, Japanese, Spanish and Italian.

Nim-FM is presently experiencing a challenging financial situation, as are



many other community organisations. This is due to a number of factors, including considerable rent rises, equipment replacement, power costs, and general economic downturn...

However, with the support of the community, we at Nim-FM feel it can be turned around.

There are several ways you can support us. Firstly, become a member.

If you're a local business, become a sponsor. Or if you just want to donate, head on over to our fabo web site: www.nimfm.org and click on Smile :) at the top of the page, and away you go.

Another way you can help is to come to the Nim-FM Fundraiser on Saturday 4th July, 5pm at the Nimbin Bowlo. Music, comedy, DJs, raffles, auctions and warm fuzzies.

We thank you in advance.

nimbin.goodtimes@gmail.com

RDT changes are imminent

by Michael Balderstone

Since the Legalise Cannabis Party got members of parliament elected, I have to say it's been a crash course in political reality for me. It's an incredibly conservative world we sent those MPs into – another planet almost for Jeremy Buckingham, compared to his piece of hippy paradise near Bellingen where he was living.

His first job was to change the driving laws for cannabis users. Then, we'd like to grow our own please Jez!

We always knew the police opposed any drug laws changing, and I realised it was their jobs at stake, or so they thought, and their power. Just having a Nimbin address means they can search you anytime. Maybe you don't even need a Nimbin address these days. Extraordinary power like no-one else has.

People forget this is a real war and of course it's the police generals in charge and not the politicians, as it is in any war. No use asking the army to stop fighting, it's what they do... and believe in, or do they? I'm not surprised people are not joining the police like they used to any more and their numbers are way down.

The majority of people in Oz now support cannabis law reform, which in fact has happened, even though for many of us we don't like the way it has. All personal drug use is increasingly seen as a health issue, and the harder the police push the worse it gets. The jails are overflowing, and gangs are shooting at each other in Sydney streets every day.

I got my saliva taken again a month or so back, and again it was positive, of course. The cop agreed I didn't look impaired, but I reckon delighted in telling me impairment has nothing to do with it. It's just the presence of cannabis that counts. Doesn't matter how long ago you used it or if you are influenced by it at all or not. It's a bad joke creating disrespect for the police wherever it plays out.

The police clearly know this, yet last weekend, as we wait for the Premier to announce his new long-promised rules for prescribed medical cannabis drivers, they decide to have one more slash with their scythe.

They caught 604 people with positive saliva tests in operation RAID, 'Remove All Impaired Drivers'. Nothing to do with being impaired, but their



Nationals MP for Page Kevin Hogan condemned Greens Senator David Shoebridge on Sky News after the Senator posted a video on-line of his interaction with a police RDT unit on the outskirts of Nimbin during the MardiGrass protestival, calling it "a waste of police time and resources".

propaganda machine, their massive media department, keeps on with the emotive nonsense.

If we're being real, it should have been called RADPOD, 'Remove All Drivers with Presence Of Drugs'. Saliva testing is just a weapon in their drug war, rather than being about making the roads safer.

One in ten tested drivers are detected with illicit substances, the police say. How do they know if the weed is legal or not? They don't. And the ratio is distorted because the testing is not random, which you will know once you've been busted, because you'll keep getting tested.

The regulate and control system is doing its best to corner us into buying the legal weed, mostly imported and irradiated hydroponic pot from Canada or Thailand. If you get a legal prescription via a doctor, you should be able to keep your licence once the new legislation arrives. You won't be waved through, they'll still want to check you're not impaired and you are in no way allowed to grow your own, unless you live in Canberra.

Cannabis and cannabis users are so easy to bust. We are soft and safe prey. No guns on stoners! Almost war games practice compared to other drugs.

So, if you were one of the unlucky ones busted at MardiGrass by the spit cops, or any of the 600 busted in operation RAID, I recommend not paying the \$700 fine or you will get a very sly letter a few weeks later advising you've lost your licence for three months. I guess because you admitted guilt.

Report slams performance of post-flood programs

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Other recommendations from the report are that the Reconstruction Authority should document lessons learned to inform planning for future disaster resilience, recovery and adaption programs and that they should ensure readiness for future natural disaster by developing and implementing resilience and adaption programs and through planning in advance for the timely implementation of disaster recovery programs.

Janelle Saffin, NSW Recovery Minister since March 2025 told *Guardian Australia* that both the RLP and RHP were "established in the immediate aftermath of the unprecedented 2022

floods under the previous government".

"We understand that responding at speed to this disaster meant that vital upfront planning and governance systems were not where they should have been. "A lot has been achieved under the program, including moving hundreds of people off high-risk floodplains, and we remain committed to accelerating the delivery of safe land."

She said the government accepts all the auditor general's findings and "work is already underway".

In a statement, Reconstruction Authority CEO Kate Fitzgerald also said the RA accepted the findings and was acting on its recommendations.



Photo: Elise Derwin

"We acknowledge that key elements of planning, governance and delivery for the RHP and RLP were not sufficiently developed before the programs commenced in 2022," she said. "As both the parliamentary and independent inquiries into this disaster found, the 2022 floods tested the state's capabilities, but we've continued to grow and learn

since these events."

In response, the RA has announced the information sessions across the region with a view to both informing residents and the building industry and providing guidance on progressing projects.

The first session for Lismore homeowners was held in the last week of May with further sessions planned for Broadwater on 30th June and Murwillumbah on 22nd July.

Industry Connect sessions focussed on builders and tradespeople will take place throughout June and July in Mullumbimby, Coraki, Condong and South Lismore. Homeowners and industry participants are encouraged to register at: www.nsw.gov.au/rhpevents

fashionating is on the move!

From 1st June, fashionating will be located at the Yellow Church at 90 Cullen Street, Nimbin.

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