

LETTERS



Dump site is plainly the wrong spot

WELL done to *The Express* in publishing that blatant council propaganda in the Letters to the Editor section on July 9.

I refer of course to the one and only letter to the Editor that appeared in the paper, John Lax's tirade as to why it was such a good idea to dump the entire region's next 100 years' worth of rubbish beside a World Heritage environmental area.

I am not surprised you think the decision to locate the new dump next to the Gara River is a good decision, John, it means it won't be next door to you - never mind the environmental devastation it will bring, as long as it is not near John then everyone should be happy.

You are the worst kind of 'not-in-my-backyarder,' you really don't care where it goes, just as long as it is far away from you.

It was wonderful to hear about the great rubbish dumps they have in Brisbane, however if I recall correctly, none of them are situated adjacent to a World Heritage Site, or am I wrong in that John?

The location of a regional mega-dump adjacent to an ecologically sensitive National Park, part of the World Heritage Eastern Central Rainforests of Australia site, is a dumb idea. Especially considering this new dump could possibly be located in any part of Armidale, Uralla, Walcha and Guyra shires, are you claiming that the best location Armidale Council could find was one right next to a river?

Right next to the Oxley Wild Rivers National Park?

Come on, John, pull the other one.

I hope that John will also be going down to Kempsey to tell the townspeople there why they soon will be drinking the run-off and leachate from this proposed regional mega-dump.

This decision is bad for the environment, bad for Armidale's

tourist industry and bad for the whole community.

Let's hope that Armidale Council has the guts to admit it has made a mistake and reverses its decision. If not we will all be paying the price of environmental destruction and degradation for many generations to come.

Justin Baiocchi
(by email)

Turn the tables on throw-away society

I ABSOLUTELY agree with Barbara Finch's hypothetical suggestion that rather than argue too much the assigned new garbage dump site, we should think of dumping our 'stuff' in Central Park just to evaluate how much we pollute our environment.

I've bought my green shopping bags and have to remember to take them with me. Bad habits are hard to break, what!

I think this designated 'dump site' on Waterfall Way is highly controversial.

In one recent paper report it cost \$1.3 million for 95 acres? I think that must be wrong (I hope so)?

The run-off from the proposed site will pollute not only natural waterways but also environmentally disadvantage immediate areas and also nearby regions.

When I see an official EPA report assuring there will not be damage to the environment I may be satisfied, provided this area was not bought for \$1.3 million.

We should take our environment most seriously. Just imagine, for instance, if for some reason, be it by accident or from a natural disaster, our electricity supply was cut off?

No heating or refrigeration (unless one had a backup generator), no computers, internet or telephone?

I am not sure, but are petrol bowers run via an electricity supply pump?

Our society would be stuffed,

proverbially!

So we should not take environmental protection lightly. It is important.

One does not have to be thoroughly green in politics to understand this.

Here's my advice: Get growing your own veggies, build a greenhouse and fire up the barbecue - as this next glacial period begins (it has already started) and think about 'green energy' supplies.

Get a fresh water tank attached to your house, and forget about three showers a day, particularly in winter, just wash thoroughly - if you get my gist!

Or share a shower with another body! Whoopee - the mind boggles.

We are spoilt people, we do not need all that we have - remember WWII rationing etc, which we all lived through.

And candlelight is so romantic?

Pat Lightfoot
Armidale

PS Does anyone remember what a lamb cutlet tastes like, haven't been able to afford one for years!

Free trade deal in our best interests

THE HEADLINE in the *Financial Review* said it all: 'Free-Trade Deals Fuel Toyota's Camry Export Drive.'

The gist of the article is the US and Thailand free trade deals are giving Toyota in Australia incentive to invest heavily and build their export business.

The negative reaction to the US trade deal by the Greens, ALP and Tony Windsor MP is disappointing and short-sighted. The reasons

