

## **THE CURRENT ECONOMIC CLIMATE IN NUNDLE**

I have owned and operated Machina Coffee Donuts for 6 years, and Riders Rest Accommodation for the last 12 months in Nundle. Here is a list of businesses that have ceased to operate in Nundle over the last 6 years;

Nundle Guest House  
Nundle Guest House Cafe.  
The Nundle Guitar Shop (shop fit out complete, never opened.)  
Saks Clothing  
TK Express (Tamworth to Nundle Courier)  
Nundle Skin Care  
Slovakian Food take away  
Volcania Art and Glass  
Bearded Lion Empire Crystals

The reason I have survived, I have developed an uncanny ability to secure business loans. I am up to my 9th unsecured business loan, 2nd remortgage of the house in 6 years. This is all for one goal. To renovate the dilapidated house that is situated behind Machina. When I bought the house 5 years ago, it was near condemned, with squatters living there. Through 4 years of sheer hard work, I have renovated the house myself to an exceptional level, being able to use the house for overnight accommodation. I did this out of pure necessity, to raise the cash flow for Machina.

I am now completing works to the rear of the property, for my 2 youngest children (which I have full time) and I to reside in.

Basically Nundle operates on a 2 day business model. That being the weekend. There is no weekly trade. A retired resident attended Machina recently, after NSW planning approved 49 turbines. She said;

'I suppose you have to get ready for the windmills now?' In the usual condescending Local Nundle tone.

I replied 'I'd much prefer to keep borrowing against my house to keep the coffee shop open. It would be simply awful to serve coffee to 300 construction workers, every day, for 3 years.'

Her retort 'What if they don't buy anything in Nundle?'

My reply was simple; 'Ok, lets work off 10% of those construction workers buying a coffee here, daily. That's 30 extra coffees every day, I'm not making now. Do you know how much 30 extra coffees a day would completely change my life?'

SILENCE. Retired resident walked off.

The residents of Nundle have complete disregard concerning how businesses stay alive in Nundle. But they certainly enjoy having local shops available open for trade. By the same token, why should they have any regard? However, please don't cry foul when shops continue to cease trading due to lack of traffic.

## **THE NUNDLE STATE FORREST**

There is some conjecture about the windmill project bringing an unreasonable amount of heavy articulated traffic through Nundle, to convey the windmill blades. The Nundle State Pine Forrest has been stripping lumber for the last 4 years. with it projected to take another 5 years to completely fell the timber. I live in [REDACTED] my coffee shop. It is on the main intersection of Nundle. The large semi trailers s [REDACTED] easing about 5pm, 5 days a week, roughly 330 days a year. I know when they start and finish, because it's on my front porch. There are 60 movements daily, directly past my coffee shop. That is straight through the main intersection, up Oakenville Road, around the much fabled Devil's Elbow, to Hanging Rock. Here is an idea of how much sheer yearly tonnage travels directly through Nundle;

60 movements a day = 30 laden double semi trailers, each carrying 40 tonne of pine.

$30 \times 40 = 1,200$  tonne per day.

$330 \times 1,200 = 396,000$  per year.

$396,000 \times 9$  year project = 3,564,000 tonnes total.

That's 3,564,000 tonnes of pine, being brought directly down Devil's Elbow, straight through town. From what I can gather, people who oppose the windmill project, are perfectly fine with the logging trucks. But the trucks with windmill blades on them are offensive. No-one raises the current obscene damage done to the roads in and out of Nundle, the trucks that have flipped with full loads of pine outside of Nundle. Not one word. My 9 year old son could provide a steadier argument regarding the traffic facet of the windmill project. To my knowledge there isn't a community fund put forward by the State Forestry, regarding the present and ongoing impact of this project on Nundle.

### **THIS HAS ALL HAPPENED BEFORE**

The Nundle Woollen Mill was a project put forward by Peter and Judy Howarth in the late 90's. There was a petition put together (roughly 100 names) against the approval of the project. One local councillor thought it was abhorrent to place a large shed in the middle of Nundle. He even organized a Councillors Meeting, the idea being originally rejected by Local Council. If Peter and Judy Howarth hadn't persevered, the Nundle Woollen Mill wouldn't exist. Where would Nundle be today without this major tourist attraction? It has operated for the last 20 years bringing tens of thousands to the locality.

Chaffey Dam is perhaps the ultimate example of progress which was imperative to occur, in order for many to benefit. In the 1970's, 21 homes and surrounding farmland, was acquired by State Government. All placed underwater. A current 85 year old Nundle resident, states it was 'the most productive and acclaimed Lucerne flats along the whole Peel River.' This resident was compensated for his property, moved to Nundle, his family, along with 5 other families, permanently residing and prospering in Nundle ever since. Tamworth and its 80,000 residents has had secure water for the last 50 years. This local resident states 'It was sad at the time, however I have no regrets at all about the Chaffey Dam project.'

In 2014 Chaffey Dam had its wall raised by 8m to ensure water supply to Tamworth. Construction was halted because 2 Boorolong Frogs were located during prior environmental studies. Barnaby Joyce had to fight in parliament to ensure the project went ahead. With the new wall installed, capacity reached 100%. At the end of the drought 5 years ago, Capacity dropped to 12%. Had the new wall height had not been installed, Tamworth City Council would have been trucking water in for 80,000 residents.

I suppose Tamworth City Council were praying to the New and Old World Gods for rain at the end of that drought. One can only hope Local Council, State and Federal Government don't leave it to the Gods, when we have a severe power shortage in the next few years. If all levels of government are pushing for a green energy initiative, rapidly switching off coal, but approving near nil green energy to replace it, how do we keep the power on? I have implicit faith much more learned people than I, have the situation well under control.

There are so many positive outcomes Nundle could benefit from this initiative. A permanent doctors surgery. Upgrades to the local swimming pool to make it a year round facility. Affordable new housing estates. Several festivals throughout the year promoting Nundle.

You can absolutely guarantee those who vehemently oppose the new wind farm, will be the very first in line to embrace the above brilliant opportunities. It's human nature.

Thank you for taking the time to read this. [REDACTED]

