

# BACKSTAGE WITH NIGHTMOVES

## JULY 2017

Good morning.

The busiest ever of months started with what was intended to be a reasonably laid back Sunday arvo at **Kendall Services Club**, where we featured most of the songs that we planned to play at the **Coolangatta Surf Club** the following Friday night, sans the barn dance of course.

It is very difficult to play laid back when we get such an overwhelming response from dancers and listeners alike, so it was guns blazing just about all the way. We were very pleased to have some nice appreciation of our newest arrangement of Smoke, which has been described by some personable music critics as "*chaos with a beat*".

Our first on the floor dancers were Steve and Lisa from Old Bar, a couple known to just about everyone for their fantastic dancing. We were delighted to meet Guy and Berna, who have been ardent followers of the band's Facebook page, and who travelled down from Yarrowitch Valley just to enjoy the night. They planned to sleep in their car before returning home next day.

To give dancers more room we moved to the stage and the census of opinion was that it was a good move, with better sound and certainly more room on the dance floor.

Of all the people who were asked for their opinion, there was only one negative disgruntled view put forward, but who cares about what an old geriatric drummer thinks anyhow!

And then it was off to the Gold Coast for **Cooly Rocks On 2017**.

Our first gig was at the **Coolangatta Surf Club** on the Friday night. We learned that this Club was voted as having the number one Club Bistro in Queensland for 2016, hence the club focus was on the diners. We were set up in a small section of the main dining room, which allowed a small carpeted patch for some dancers. Nevertheless the changing crowd seemed to enjoy our arrangements, particularly the more weird ones, and we did get to see some spectacular dancing, on the carpet and literally in the aisles, no less. This very enthusiastic audience travelled from all points of Oz, including Wollongong, Melbourne, Darwin and even Perth. A most pleasing part of the night was the reaction to our rendition of Smoke, which is on the improve with every performance.

A short sleep at the Pyramid and then it was make-up time for our part in the Street Parade along Coolangatta's beautiful beachfront. That pesky little beast "A-Mina-AI" took over the drum chair that not only put fear into many of the little children that were part of the five million or so onlookers that lined the streets, but some grown-ups, including musicians, as well. He/it was of some use, as he made a deal with the rain gods for them not to "*rain on our parade*", so it was sunshine all the way. A highlight of the event took place prior to the Parade whilst everyone was positioned in the assembly points on a back street of the town. Naturally everyone was chafing at the bit and the dance club groups were indeed getting a little restless. So Nightmoves counted off Guitar Boogie and immediately everyone was rockin' and rollin' all those anxieties down the drain. We had an impromptu performance of Johnny B Goode which featured a chorus by Issy Dye and then after a couple of other RnR classics we were on our way. Our Parade performance was supplemented with some fine on-truck dancing which included Ross

**and Anne from Port Panther Rockers, Kevin, (aka Jacamor), Terry and Roz from Taree Rockers and our dear friends from Halliday's Point, Ross and Rainie.**

**During the parade it was noticed that our truck was swaying and jerking. We later received an apology from our driver, who simply got carried away with our music, and in particular Smoke.**

**If we were ever looking for an alternate name, *The Drought Breakers* would certainly fit the bill, as nearly every gig-date we seem to have lately comes with some horrible weather. And Sunday was no exception. We were scheduled to play on the main stage in **Queen Elizabeth Park** from 12.30pm and after receiving confirmation that the show was still on, we arrived at the stage and prepared to set up our equipment. However not long after we made our acquaintances and swapped instructions with the stage crew, the heavens opened up again and it was all over. It was a huge disappointment for us and for about 3,279 or so of our new friends, as we had planned to literally blow the roof and leave our mark on the Festival. "*So Mote It Be!*" Fearing the possibility of flooding in the northern rivers area, we all set sail and despite driving through some blinding rain, particularly around Ballina, each one of us arrived home safely and without incident.**

**Back in OZ again the following Friday and it was off to the **Paws Lounge** at **Port Panthers**, the home of the friendly "rebels". At last the renovations are completed and what a wonderful atmosphere it now is, albeit we are still on the same stage underneath the big screen. A big surprise and a little disheartening for us was to find out that so many of the Port Rockers were at Cooly and didn't get the chance to say hello to us, or us to them!**

**First dancer CD went to local couple Trevor and Mary-Jean, who are noted followers of the country music genre. However they also love the Nightmoves' music and stayed way past beyond their normal bed-time to enjoy the evening.**

**Next morning, after catching up with some sleep at various odd places, we continued our road trip month heading back up the coast to **Coff's Harbour** for our debut at **CEX**. Of course it was raining cats and dogs, yet all of us had a fairly good trip and arrived on time.**

**Well the night started off as a living nightmare for us, as our normally well mannered sound system reacted angrily to the corner positioning of the stage and some outside electrical influences. After some adjustments and some choice, but well chosen words during the break, Davo was able to correct and we were then on our way. As is the norm, some of our arrangements were not appreciated by some of the capacity crowd that had come to see us and who may have been expecting to dance to a conventional RnR band, which is something we ain't. However after a short time we had the joint jumping and witnessed some terrific dancing right up to the last song of the night, some routines and steps new to all of us. Our first dancer CD was given to locals David and Susan who enjoy a night out having a dance and just listening to music. We also noted a group of visitors had come from Kurri Kurri to catch up with us following our appearance at their festival earlier in the year.**

**A huge thanks to **Anne Martin**, who rallied the troops and ensured us a very memorable night with a great and appreciative audience.**

***One last thought; T1 cannot wait to get back there, simply because the room and the positioning of the stage, provided his ears with his best drum sound in living memory.***

**To finish the month it was a drive south for our return appearance at **Belmont 16s**. This time we met with a traffic hazard that we had not had for quite some time; a glaring sun and a dry road! B2 went a little further by product testing a new car deodorant, one which he rated as a complete failure. At 16's the people just love to dance and all night we saw some fine dancing; rock n roll, ballroom, some unidentifiable and some even weird, particularly to Smoke. It was good to see some of our supporters who had travelled from as far off as Port Macquarie just for the night. With our good friends, the Midnight Drifters enjoying a well deserved break, we welcomed Chris and his lovely lady, Daphne to the dance floor and during a set, Chris became an honorary "Mid-Nightmover" and belted out a couple of rockers.**

We all thought June was a busy month for the band until we looked at what is in store for us for the mid-winter month. Although we *only* have five confirmed gigs, it is the first weekend which will test our fitness and resilience.

On Saturday, 1st, we make the first of a series of three engagements at **West's Cardiff**. We understand that this club is now featuring Rock n Roll every Saturday evening from 8.00pm and we are very proud to have been included in a line up of so many top shelf rock n roll bands from all over. We look forward to meeting many people and hopefully making some new friends.

The Cardiff gig finishes at 11.30pm and we then make our way back up to **Forster Keys** for the **Family Fun Day**, commencing at about 10.00am. No point in driving home, so we will be looking for a friendly tree to grab a little shut eye before setting up the tent and our equipment. Our performance last year was very well received and we are eager to show the people of Forster, and beyond, what a difference a year has made in the quality of our performances and our level of insanity. It should be quite a day with many activities planned, including, market stalls, bands, rides, sea planes, great food and much more, headlining of course with rock n roll dancing to the Nightmoves Band, who are now sponsored by **Jamaican Blue**. The other big event of the day is the Dog Show where Super Sally is favoured to continue her success in this event and take out another major prize.

The Band is scheduled to finish dead on 1.00pm which will give us enough time to get to **Kendall Services Club** in order to kick off at 4.00pm for our monthly Sunday Arvo Rock n Roll session.

Following a two week RnR, (that's rest and resuscitation, not rock n roll), we return to **Club Harrington** on Friday 14th from 6.30pm, where the weather can be almost guaranteed to be miserable, approaching atrocious, approaching ridiculous!

The month tails off with a couple of private engagements which cannot be disclosed to the general public for fear of unspeakable punishment. However you can form your own opinion if you are anywhere near Cundletown Heights and you spot any number of vehicles carrying a "21st Century Nightmare Pictures Inc" logo on the side of said vehicles.

Kindest regards

T1 for Nightmoves

*Nightmoves in Live action at Coolangatta Surf Club during the Cooly Rocks On Festival.  
Davo has spotted something he likes!      The double bass that wants to be a drum!*

