

## Wooli Public School celebrates World Environment Day, 2011

The coastal hamlet of Wooli in the Clarence Valley east of Grafton has not had the best of years. Built on a virtual sand spit between the Wooli River estuary and the ocean, residents were told earlier this year that, over time, their homes will be lost to sea level rise as a result of climate change.



Clarence Valley Council has effectively washed its hands of the problem, declaring a policy of planned retreat, leaving residents frustrated and alarmed. Nevertheless, the community spirit was in evidence on World Environment Day with the small Wooli Public School putting on what we believe to be the only public event to mark the occasion in the Clarence Valley.

Naturally the Clarence Environment Centre was appreciative of the invitation to participate, and happy to put in an appearance, along with Landcare, the Solitary Islands Marine Park Authority, the now Office of Environment and Heritage, and various other stallholders, who all combined to make the day a memorable success.



There was entertainment and activities, a “school for jugglers”, live music, belly-dancing, and the school's students singing appropriate songs relating to sustainability



and healthy living, something not altogether supported by the crowd's enthusiastic support for the sausage sizzle (we are all excused the occasional indulgence) organised by the School's P&C. Of course there was an array of healthy home cooked fare available.



Sustainability and healthy living is clearly a priority at the school and their vegetable garden is a credit to all involved, portraying a grow-your-own philosophy that all children should be exposed to.

Thank you Wooli School for a truly enjoyable experience.