

Let's not 'let the the Noosa gains' be developed away

A NOOSA News article by local historian Colin Monk on the Noosa on Weyba development prompted resident Jacqui Chadwick to pen her own feelings regarding the development in an area where she has lived closed to since 1956.

IN 1956 my husband and I settled in Hastings St, not far from the location of Colin Monk's family home. At that time the people who lived in the Noosa Shire were spread out. We were a mixture of farmers, small business and seasonal holidaymakers. We all shared and valued the features of our special environment:

- Our National Park
- Background mountain and hinterland

■ North facing Laguna Bay

- North Shore
- Noosa River
- Five lakes

These six features existing in one area make it unique in Australia and account for its Biosphere classification. Since the 1950s, many developers have schemed to take advantage of this area,

eg. a Club Med in the Woods; a bitumen road and possible sub-division to follow in the National Park; North Shore developments and high rise accommodation. During these times many wonderful people - particularly Arthur Harrold and members of Noosa Parks Association - have mounted huge campaigns

for public awareness to preserve our area. The approach and advertising campaign of the Mantle Group that they were "doing it" for Noosa rang hollow. At this time, when the new Noosa Council has done so much extra work for the de-amalgamation it does seem an extra problem.

I think that everything that preserves our natural assets on the Sunshine Coast benefits us all. The Noosa on Weyba development is just too much of an unnecessary development in our area with all the associated interference, jeopardising the peace and harmony of land and water use in this part of Lake Weyba.