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SAVE KNOX BOWL • HILLSIDE JAM II

CERTIFIED WAGGA BOYS

2008 BMX GAMES

NERANG NATIONALS

TOOWOOMBA SCENE

TRACK ATTACK

ACT TITLES

LIVERPOOL MASTERS

AND MUCH MORE!!!

April - May 2008

Aust Incl GST \$7.95 - NZ \$8.95



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Pics and text by Gorak.

The concrete is like an old western movie; hard, rough and raw but with so much more character. By no means is Knox the clean-cut, pretty boy, prancing down Chapel St in his over-priced, designer label T-shirt, more a flannel wearing, beer drinking, filthy boy from the corner. The instant familiarity over-rides any doubt about meeting Knox the moment you set rubber upon the dusty gravel path leading to the sweetness ahead. By this stage you can already sense the abundance of cars that have entered sideways around the right hand curve as the excited youth, crammed into their shuttle, embark on another fun filled adventure at Hard Knox. There she is; you pull to a halt at the low sitting pine railing and glance around, taking your time to breathe in the moments. "Look at that hip," "oh, sub-rail," "Hey, they got a metal mini tool!" the excitement over comes everyone and the car erupts with doors opening and blokes raging out and into the park.

Be it on a BMX, skateboard, roller-blades or dare I say scooter, the park is now buzzing with loud and ever-lasting action. Riders of all sizes are getting snaked, dropping in, carving lines, boosting airs, and waiting for their chance to roll the irregular terrain. A simple skid, a shave of aluminium bar end embedded in the stones of the concrete, aerosol cans spilling fresh color over old art work, the slip of the foot dropping a trickle of blood to stain the dull grey deck of the infamous fly-out.

It has happened for years, a constant as certain as the sun. Arising in the morning, it's been with-out fail for so many years now that the sun is there. Some days hidden behind blankets of dark rain clouds and confinements of office or school hours, it's still there even if we are unable to see it. As with the sun, it's been the same for the renowned Knox Bowl. Even in times of long hours at work, or endless school days, I've counted on riding home via Knox to keep me going. Now, I have moved away, over 30 minutes drive and still, I find time to get back to the sometimes jagged solid lips and hips and re-connect with old friends and good times.





Knox - Dave - hip flip.

Now, a new, shiny skatepark has been erected, far from major shopping centres and public transport but it's trying to conquer and destroy the old Knox Bowl. The new, 'improved' facility has some good points but is not yet showing the character possessed by the original Knox Skatepark. It cannot be as great as the original, we cannot let it take control and destroy the old faithful, as riders and skaters, and people as part of a tight community, we are here to show the support Hard Knox deserves and help fight to keep her alive.

A number of supporters recently put on some exceptional jams to express the love and respect of the old girl and in order to try save the park. The first was held a few weeks ago and another was held just hours before I finished this tribute. It was truly amazing to see the myriad of people lining the edge of the bowls, pedaling their bikes, pushing their skateboards and enjoying the 30+ temperatures. The first day saw a few less people but it meant the riding was of a higher standard and witnesses experienced the talents of Knox Dave, Lindsay Brown, Jade Gartlan and many more. The second jam was more family orientated which bought along a whole new era of young talented riders and also the parents so they could see what is possible when kids get together and petition to save a skatepark.



Unkown hop.
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Lindsay Brown - Full.



I do so hope it does not get knocked down, it will always be called home and the birthplace of Gorak. Beyond my beginnings it has more than its share of memories, tales and claims to fame. It is a historic part of the Melbourne skate and BMX scene and will live on forever in the hearts of all who rode it.

Please help save the Knox Bowl!