

THE DRYZANDIA SUN

Congestion Charge Targets Tripods

Rril Srirk
Home Affairs Editor

From the majestic tripod stalker of the sulphur wastes to the humble pogo-beetle and the breathtaking wedding-dances of the Squirm, the tripod is a familiar sight to travellers throughout the Imbroglia. But it is also something likely to become all the rarer on Dryzandia, if proposed changes to the congestion charge go into effect.

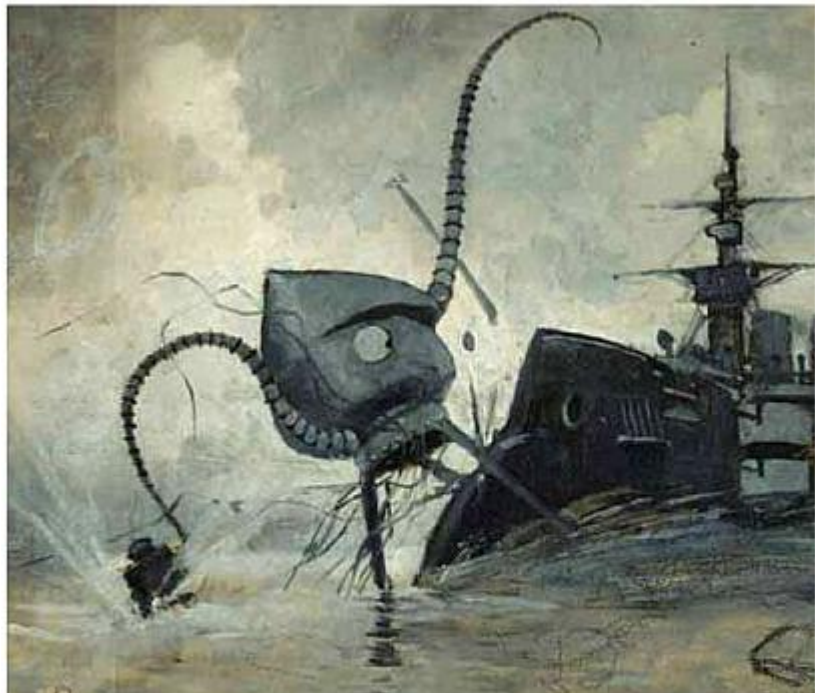
"Dryzandian roads just weren't designed for tripods," Minister for Travel Ssi Lrirk told the Sun, "and in the current economic climate they won't be suitable for them for many years yet. Rather than expect the owners of more traditional vehicles to suffer the cost of these ungainly contraptions stumbling over them, I think it's only fair that the people who wish to operate tripods contribute more to the system they're straining."

But Plob Billopupop, spokesperson for the Dryzandia Octopode Community Centre disagrees. "The idea that tripods cause traffic jams is a popular one among people with a certain mindset, but there's no evidence to support it. If anything, the narrow legs of a tripod take up less space than a wheeled vehicle."

And Billopupop has his own ideas about the reasons for this proposed change. "Dryzandia has a deserved reputation as an unfriendly world for immigrants. Laws like this are clearly intended to reduce the visibility of other species - tripods being, of course, an especially popular vehicle among octopodes."

But Lrirk accuses detractors of playing the race card. "No species should get special treatment. If you want to operate a vehicle that causes traffic jams and breaks up the road surface, you should be prepared to pay for the disruption you cause."

The High Council votes on the amended charge today, with the motion expected to pass by a slim margin.



Bystander Henrique Alvim Corrêa captured this image of a tripod stumbling into the path of the sand barge S.S. Plainsroller.

Rrrzzz Heralds New Economic Era

Sjirl Slersss
Political Editor

Dryzandia will always be a second-rate world unless it gets out of the prison business. These were the harsh words of Economy Minister Zzsr Rrrzzz, whose incisive and uncompromising appraisal of the previous government's finances has also been seen by many commentators as a devastating retort to those who claimed she was merely the cabinet's "token apian".

With her exoskeleton decorated with elegant, but
Continued on page four.

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Noted human commentator John Smith argues for the rights of a forgotten minority.
Exclusive to the Sun, on page five.