



Northern Beaches Interchange

Respite Recreation Support

December 2008 – Issue

2008 has been a very busy and productive year for the organisation and we are looking forward to another successful year in 2009.

We would like to wish all NBI families, volunteers, staff and community partners a very merry Christmas and a safe and happy New Year.

We would like to acknowledge the huge contribution of Margaret Kerr and Kay Koenig in organising the sale of our beautiful Christmas Cards and a big thank you to the artist, Gail Caple, for donating the artwork.

Christmas Closure

NBI will be closed from 3pm on Wednesday, 24 December 2008 and will reopen at 9am on Monday, 5 January 2009.

Messages regarding the holiday program can be left by calling 9970 0500 and will be responded to during this period.

NBI Fun Day

Our annual Fun Day was held on Saturday, 13 December. It was a great day and it was fantastic to see so many families there. Those who came enjoyed pony rides, a jumping castle, BBQ lunch, bubbles, balls, music, tattoos and, of course, a visit from everyone's main man in the red with gifts for all the children!



We heartily thank the Belrose Davidson Apex Club who supplied the BBQ and volunteer helpers on the day for their wonderful support. Thank you also to North Narrabeen Public School for allowing us to use their venue for the day.

Collaroy Services Beach Club - CAROLS ON THE BEACH

Collaroy Services Beach Club's annual Carols on the Beach will be held from approx. 6.30pm on Sunday, 21 December 2008 on the beach in front of the club.

The 2008 Carols will be presented by Franky Valentyn and his team from the balcony overlooking the beach. Santa will be visiting with free sweets for the children and there will be a fireworks display.

Since 2003, the proceeds from this night have been donated to a local charity and this year NBI will be the recipient of this donation.



Saturday Program and Tag Farmstay Camp 2008

On Friday, 5 December 2008, ten of the Saturday Program and Tag crew headed off for a weekend away at Mowbray Farmstay. As Duncan was the navigator, it was inevitable that we ended up running an HOUR late for dinner! Luckily, this was our one and only hiccup and when we finally arrived at our beautiful large cottage, dinner was served and waiting. Over that weekend, we enjoyed many amazing home-cooked meals.

There were so many fun farm activities to experience like animal feeding, sheep shearing, tractor rides, whip cracking, boomerang throwing, damper making - to name a few!

The highlight? It was a toss-up between having our very own pool overlooking acres of farmland on a 42 degree day and watching Princess Micaela getting down and dirty milking a cow for the very first time!



Special thanks to our volunteer Cecy, whose support on the camp was invaluable.

Schools Spectacular by David Whittaker-Smith

On the weekend of 28 and 29 November, fifteen students from Fisher Road school attended the 25th School Spectacular at the Sydney Entertainment Centre. James Whittaker-Smith (*pictured in the white jacket*) sang 'Love is in the Air' with Darren Coggan, a professional performer who had been in the show a few years before. James was accompanied by fourteen dancers in beautiful costumes from ages 5 to 18.



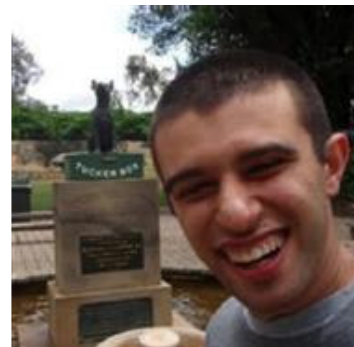
There were 4 shows over the 2 days and although it was very tiring, they brought the house down. At each show, they had a standing ovation with people in tears and were the talk of the show. James got practically mobbed after the final performance on Saturday!

The performance was broadcast on ABC1 on Sunday, 14 December at 7.30pm and will be shown on ABC2 on 21 and 26 of December.

Peer Support Road Trip November 2008

Did someone say road trip . . . ??? Yes, that's right - Peer Support went on it's first ever Road Trip Camp from Friday, 20 until Sunday, 22 November 2008.

Five happy campers rocked up to NBI on Friday evening just before 6pm to begin the road trip. Our sights were set on the beautiful city of Melbourne but the journey was really the highlight of this trip. We had a fabulous time stopping along the way to check out parks, beaches,





famous places of interest all the while singing, dancing and having fun with our mates on the way.

Our first night was spent in dorm-style accommodation with boys in one room and girls in the other. The next day we rose early and spent the day cruising the highway before ending up in the picturesque Victorian highlands in a B&B in the mountains. The log fire was heaven as temperatures drop markedly when you enter Victoria.

Sunday morning, we headed into Melbourne for brunch before heading home. And how did we get home in such a short time? Good question! We jumped on a jumbo jet and

flew back to Sydney in style, leaving beautiful Melbourne behind and returning to our home city in time for a Sunday roast with the family!

Siblings Days in January

Are you aged between 8 and 17 years? Do you like trying new things and meeting new friends? Are you up for a challenge . . . ?!!

In January 2009, NBI is running 2 separate siblings' days on different dates. One for 8-12 year olds and one for 13-17 year olds. Both these days will be Learn to Surf days run by the world renowned Manly Surf School. All equipment is provided so all we'll need to do is head down to the beach and have a great time. After we have exhausted ourselves out in the water, we will dry off and cook up a BBQ on the beach front. The afternoon will be full of games and activities in a local hall.

Dates and times to be confirmed.

Please contact Jess on 9970 0508 or jessnbi@ans.com.au for expressions of interest.

Mums Weekend Away

A quick reminder to those mums who are interested in joining us on our Mums Weekend Away, 20-22 February 2009, and who have not sent in the application form yet.

Applications are due Monday, 5 January 2009 along with the contribution money of \$140 per person. All applicants will be advised of the outcome by Monday, 12 January 2009 and unsuccessful applicants will have their money returned to them by this date.

For further information and to complete an application form, please follow the link : [Mums Weekend Away - Invite and Application Form](#)