



Mirabel Newsletter

december 2013 issue 22

Highlights...

- Mirabel recently held 'My First Mega Camp' for 41 children aged between 8-12 years. This is the largest number of children that we've had on a Mirabel camp and it was a 'mega' success!
- 12 children attended the Tweed Heads minicamp, activities included surfing lessons, ice skating and the movies. Strong friendships were made and stories were shared.
- Funfields Adventure Park was the perfect venue for the September Mirabel Big Day Out. With 59 children attending, help from 18 corporate volunteers ensured that everyone had a great day.
- 31 carers and children enjoyed the Mirabel Family Fun Day. Carers chatted happily and the children let off some energy in the indoor play centre. Five new families enjoyed the opportunity to meet other carers in a relaxed setting.

Shia finds her way...

"I say to all grandparents, 'Hang in there – there's light at the end of the tunnel.'" (Joan, grandmother and full time carer)

'I would just like to share with everyone how proud we are of Shia and how far she has come, from a terrible start in early life. Shia is my son's daughter and her mother is aboriginal. Shia got a bit lost on the way when she was a teenager, she had trouble finding her identity. Shia did do year 12 and did a traineeship with Titans 4 Tomorrow. Shia found her way and when she finished her traineeship they employed her. Shia runs workshops at different schools helping kids to stay and do year 12. In the meantime, Shia applied for a job in Canberra working for

the government, she passed the interview and got the job. Her goal is to get into Parliament.

I have another granddaughter who is 9 years old and Shia is an inspiration to her. I would like to say a big thank you to Mirabel for the help they give our children.'

Joan and Shia have been involved with Mirabel since 2004. We are currently supporting over 1200 children like Shia who have been orphaned or abandoned due to parental illicit drug use.



Give In Style

Give In Style 2013 raised \$103,500 for Mirabel!

Give In Style started with an idea of Emma Warwick and Julia Rockman to collect pre-loved clothing from friends and sell them to raise money for Mirabel. The event has grown enormously since 2008 and now includes stylish new fashion pieces donated by top designers, with all proceeds going to Mirabel's Education Program. Our heartfelt thanks to The Give in Style Committee who work tirelessly in bringing this event together and also to UBS, the Event Sponsors and Fashion Ambassadors, Fashion Sale Supporters and the Give In Style Angels. It was an outstanding result due to the

incredible commitment and generosity of everyone involved.

Thanks to the Tour de Bress Cycle Team who are again raising funds for Mirabel with their 140km windswept and hilly ride from Melbourne to Harcourt.

Welcome to our new Ambassadors – Dannielle Miller and Allison Langdon. We are thrilled to have them join Team Mirabel!

With over 1200 children's birthday presents to send out each year, we are always looking for donations of small gifts or vouchers. Please contact us if you think you can help!

Mirabel House

Mirabel House is the perfect setting for our Peninsula support groups. Carers meet regularly to share their stories and offer each other support in a relaxed and familiar place. We share lunch, a laugh and sometimes tears. Carers come away from the groups feeling recharged and ready to face the many challenges of raising their grandchildren or nieces and nephews.

Being able to share and hear each other's stories and talk not only about the grief and pain but also the joys and rewards of being a kinship carer is incredibly important and powerful.

I would like to support the Mirabel Foundation

Here is my/our donation (Please complete this form then mail/fax to Mirabel)

\$25 \$50 \$120 \$200 \$_____ my/our choice

Sponsor a Child for a year's extra curricular activities \$100 per month

Cheque Money Order Visa Bankcard Mastercard AMEX

 Expiry Date: /

Name on Card: _____ Signature: _____

Mr/Mrs/Ms/Miss Full Name: _____

Address: _____ Postcode: _____

Phone: H: _____ W: _____ Email: _____

All donations over \$2 are tax deductible

ABN 22 926 759 458



Cheques payable to:
THE MIRABEL FOUNDATION Inc

PO Box 1320, St Kilda South,
Victoria 3182

mirabel@mirabelfoundation.org.au

phone: (03) 9527 9422

fax: (03) 9527 9466

www.mirabelfoundation.org.au

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