



## Wirraway News Winter 2011

### HALF WAY THROUGH THE YEAR

The most common thing I hear at the moment is the disbelief that we're into the 7<sup>th</sup> month of the year. "Where is the year going?" people regularly ask. It seems like a perplexing question but we then look and realise we've had 2200 people at camp over 46 camps since the beginning of this hurtling year. That's where the year's gone... and it's still going. Before the year is out, we'll have another 26 schools come on camp of which 18 are government, 2 private and 6 Catholic and Christian. It's a great and exciting thing to see Wirraway so busy knowing that God continues to sustain the campsite, the staff and the volunteers to do his work. Thank you for your prayers and support as we do this.

### MR AND MRS LOHMEYER

Liz Stevens and Dave Lohmeyer tied the knot at Wirraway on 23<sup>rd</sup> April for the first wedding held at Wirraway in... well, a very long time. It was a wonderful day and a blessing to see two Wirraway staff get married. Join with us to pray for a blessed and rich marriage for Liz and Dave and that their lives and ministry (at Wirraway and beyond) will have a fantastic impact.



### REFRESH

In May we had another Refresh weekend, which is designed to encourage and stretch young people (especially our volunteers) in their Christian walk. This year the topic was "You Are" where we explored what it means to belong to God and to live a life of Christian integrity in a world that operates in stark contrast. There was teaching, testimonies, singing, discussion groups, electives and a "one-on-one" time with God each morning. It was a great weekend and the feedback included phrases like, "amazing one-on-one time", "helpful teaching", "learned heaps", "a great break from the normal busyness of life" and "a great to get away, be refreshed and soak in the teaching". Our heart at Wirraway is not just that people get to hear about God and make a commitment but that they'd also be disciplined in their faith. We're excited that the Refresh weekend plays a part in that. Stay tuned for info on Refresh 2012.

### DONATION OF RESOURCES

Along a similar vein, Kath Williams has continued her focus on giving the Wirraway campers an opportunity to grow in their faith day by day, by providing a series of letters that provide encouragement and teaching. To add to her ministry in this area, we're grateful to announce that Koorong and Bible Society have donated over \$4000 worth of devotionals and Bible magazines that are able to be utilised by campers while at Wirraway and also at home. We're grateful to both these organisations for their kind donation to this vital area of our ministry.

### LEADERSHIP CAMP OPTION

Each year Wirraway has about 63 school camps of which most are Year 6 & 7. To supplement this program, we are offering schools a senior leadership program to accompany their current camp. The invitation is for schools to have some of their senior students accompany their junior camp, where they will enjoy some activities but also have input in various areas of leadership like 'Characteristics of a Good Leader' and 'Effective Communication'. They will also have their own age appropriate Christian program. Our prayer is that we may have a continuing impact in young people's lives beyond their junior camp, and that, maybe, students who had attended a camp in their younger years will have their interest in God reactivated or encouraged. (Don't hesitate giving us a call if you have a group you think would be interested in this program option.)

## BADGES & MAGNETS SALE MARK

Many of you would know about our badge and magnet program. This is where campers can buy a badge or magnet of their favourite horse (or the Livery Stable or wagon) for \$2.50. The \$1 profit made from the sale is donated to World Vision. As a part of a deal with the government, they supplement each \$1 donation with another \$9. This means that every sold badge or magnet equates to a \$10 donation. Since 2002 we have sold over 22,500 badges and magnets. I'll leave you to do the sums! It's such a fantastic thing that campers can have a souvenir of camp while also aiding people overseas. Excellent stuff!



## FINANCIAL GRANTS

A number of Wirraway projects and camps have been made possible by various grants. For example, our sponsorship program where we financially assist a number of schools and campers is made possible by through the Morialta Trust. We've recently heard that we've again received funds from the Indigenous Sport and Recreation Program that will enable us, for the second year in a row, to run a fully sponsored camp for the indigenous students from Oodnadatta Aboriginal School. It's a great opportunity for these students to be able to come on camp and for us to have the opportunity to bless and serve campers who come from a very different background than our 'regular' campers. We'd love your prayers as we prepare for this camp, which will occur in the second week of the October school holidays.

## FLAT OUT CAMP BOOK OUT

One of the encouraging signs that Wirraway is still hitting the mark is that within 5 hours, the October muster was sold out. As the calls came in, it was lovely talking to parents and carers about how their children looked forward to coming to camp and that it was a place where the parents knew their children would have a great time and be cared for. (Another way we are able to demonstrate the truth of Christianity.) The Christmas holiday camp bookings are now open, so don't hesitate to go online or give us a call to book a place.

## WELCOME... THE WIRRAWAY BOARD

We love sharing with you about our staff and we really appreciate your prayers and support for them and their work. There's another group of people I want to commend to your prayers and that's the Wirraway Board, who oversee our ministry. The current board consists of Mike Davis (chair), Pete Arnott, Nina Arnott, Cam Bryson, Ian Fuss, Mark Thomas, Trevor Pillar and Rob Williamson. We'd also like to take this opportunity to thank Jenny Howland and Brian Phelps who have recently retired from the board after many faithful years of service. (Jenny has been involved with Wirraway since it began and Brian has been on the board since it was first formed and has been the chair for a number of years.) We're so grateful for your commitment to us!

## FRIENDS OF WIRRAWAY

Are you an adult, have a passion for Wirraway and its ministry, and want to be involved in it? Then we'd love you to become a 'Friend of Wirraway'. This is a group of people who bring any number of skills and gifts (trade, admin, events, and prayer) to use at, and for, Wirraway on a casual basis. (Members of this group recently built a containment wall for the horse manure area. It looks great!) If you're interested in being a part of this group, please contact Val Fairbank by phone (0885362219) or email ([thefairbanks@bigpond.net.au](mailto:thefairbanks@bigpond.net.au)) to let her know how you'd like to be involved. This group is also planning another Friends of Wirraway Family Day at Wirraway in late September or early October where you're all invited to come along for a BYO lunch and some games, led pony rides and a climbing wall challenge. There will soon be a FOW link on the website with an updates of all events (past and future), so have a peek for needs and dates.

## EMAIL REMINDER

If you have access to email, we'd love to email you the newsletter instead of posting it. If you would like to take up this offer, send an email to [office@wirraway.org](mailto:office@wirraway.org) and we'll switch you over to receive your future newsletters via email.

## BOOKINGS NOW OPEN FOR CHRISTMAS HOLIDAY MUSTERS

Please see our website for details on all our future camps  
and to request a booking: [www.wirraway.org](http://www.wirraway.org) or ring (08) 8536 6063