



# **Bush to Beach**

## **Caring For Kids**

**Dedicated To Inspiring Hope, Confidence, Self-esteem  
& Promoting Education For Our Great Aussie Bush Kids**

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### **Bush to Beach 2017; *it's all about the kids***

The 2017 Bush to Beach planning started early 2016 with Ted Billett applying for grants with great success.

Once funding was confirmed we started meeting and planning around September.

Ted & Pam Billett and Jack Cannons travelled to Brewarrina in November and met with the Mayor and all Council Members at their Monthly Meeting, we met with Council staff involved as well as going to the 2 schools and meeting the Principals and some staff. We were well received. A quick and successful trip.

Meetings were constant up to Bush to Beach.

The paper work started November/December for the kids, a long and arduous job. Bookings were made.

Food shopping started Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup>. January along with picking up Life Jackets, Rashies, T-shirts and other.

Set up at South Narrabeen Surf Club started Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> afternoon.

Fruit shopping and other started Friday 6am 27<sup>th</sup>. January.

The 39 kids and 8 carers left Brewarrina 8pm Australia Day 26<sup>th</sup> and arrived South Narrabeen Surf Club 9am Friday 27<sup>th</sup>. January.

8am South Narrabeen Friday 27<sup>th</sup> January the team of volunteers arrived for set up and to greet the kids. Peter Clarke, Ted & Pam Billett their two friends Don & Karen, Suhhee, Brett Picknell, Kim Brown, Cal Smythe, Chris White and his son Matt, Richard Dowling and son Lachie.

Minister for Barwon Kevin Humphries and his wife arrived 8.30am to meet the bus and stayed till around 1pm.



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Briefing on arrival with the kids and carers by Ted and Jack, Richard spoke on water safety, we were supported by Warringah Council Life Guards. In attendance Chanel 7, SBS/NITV and Sydney Morning Herald who were there at around 9am and stayed till after 12pm.

Off to Collaroy pool for Proficiency swimming/water tests by Richard and team, all kids passed except 1, Many thanks to Richard and his team, kids played in the water at Collaroy for a short time then walked up to South Narra for lunch and fun in the water and on the sand.

Walked back to Collaroy 1.45 pm for Manly Surf School lessons, the lessons and kids were amazing with majority standing on the boards. Compliments from the staff on great kids, great behavior. Thanks to Richard, Shannon and South Narra for their assistance and Manly Surf School. We also had the support of Tammy Cook and 8 life savers from Narrabeen (the water rats) who gave up the day for surf safety. Surf lifesaving at its best.

4.15 PM walk back to South Narra, fun on the beach and in the water. A beautiful Dinner prepared by Suhhee, Naresh, Kylie & Lalit (our Korean and Indian) friends, the fish, chicken and chips were amazing, kids played and had fun up to bed time around 9pm.

Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> Jan 6.15 am Peter Clarke and Brett Picknell arrived to start cooking breakfast along with Joe & Karen, Julie & Peter. After breakfast great photos of kids sitting on the beach waiting for the flags to go up, Grant gave the go ahead and a mass exodus from the sand into the water, thanks South Narra Surf Life Savers for providing patrol people to supervise a couple of kids one on one.

8am Ken Passmore delivered the portable fridge.

9.30am Peter Madden, Ken Passmore, Shannon Hitchen and Alan Brightman started the cooking for the Saturday night baked dinner.

10am Taekwondo lessons which were amazing, kids back in the water.

12pm Kim, Cal, Pam and others served a great chicken lunch.



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12.45 on the bus to Sport and Rec Camp Narrabeen for Archery, Rock Climbing and swimming in the pool, these kids can climb, compliments from the staff on great kids, great behavior.

5pm back to the club for the Saturday night dinner.

6PM guests arrived for an amazing meal and great entertainment from Super Hubert.

New Federal MP Jason Falinski attended and was introduced to Martin, Club President, Jason also spoke as well as Ted, Martin, and Jack, a great night. Also in attendance Michael Regan Deputy Mayor Northern Beaches Council and his wife.

6.15 am Sunday (29<sup>th</sup> January) morning Peter, Brett and team cooked breakfast, again, great photos of kids sitting on the beach waiting for the flags to go up, Rohan gave the go ahead and a mass exodus from the sand into the water, thanks again South Narra Surf Life Savers for providing patrol people to supervise a couple of kids one on one.

So much fun in the water the kids didn't want to get out.

12pm Lunch with left overs from previous night being served, great lunch, the food was nothing short of amazing, Kids back in the water.

3pm Roger and his band played for an hour, thanks Roger.

4pm Surf life Savers from South Narra, Kylie Ryder, Gordon Coburn from Nth Narra, & Steve Haggett from Narrabeen SLSC put on an amazing display of CPR/ First Aid, quoting Chika "the best he has seen".

5pm Rogers other band played, they were great.

6pm Pizza Hut delivered Pizza and garlic bread. Thanks Pizza Hut.

6.30pm the disco started, so much fun for the kids (and adults), several nippers arrived and joined in.



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9pm close disco, meeting Q/A with the kids, one shy little girl put her up and said "I am going to miss the beach". It said it all.

5.30am start Monday 30<sup>th</sup> January, cleaning, organising. Again Peter, Brett and team cooked breakfast from 6.30am.

8.30am bus departs, cleaning begins, Ted, Pam, Peter Clarke, Brett, Kim, Cal, Chris White, Shannon, Don & Karen Jack and several others.

2pm clean up/ pack up finished, all departed club, Peter Madden provided his Taxi to help deliver bits and pieces back to volunteer's homes. Ava Party Hire dismantled/ picked up their gear at 3, Ken Passmore picked up the Trailer 3.45.

10pm Kids arrived Brewarrina, 12pm kids arrived Goodooga.

All in all a great trip.

### **Comment;**

This is an amazing Community Event & drags people from different backgrounds, locations to the surf club to put on an amazing weekend for our friends from the bush.

Overall a great few days for the kids, breaking down barriers, providing hope, self-esteem and confidence, learning water skills as well as CPR and basic First Aid making new friends and seeing another world.

The event wouldn't happen without South Narrabeen Surf Club, Ted Billet and an amazing team of volunteers, with most spending 14 hours a day plus making the event happen, we thank you all.

We thanks the volunteer carers from Brewarrina and Goodooga for their caring and assistance

We thank the sponsors/ supporters, Commonwealth Bank, Federal Government, Minister for Emergency Services, Brewarrina Council, Roche Products, Northern Beaches Council, Manly Surf School, Hans, Primo, Reilly and Sons Food Services, Sydney Markets



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Foundation, Collaroy Beach Club, Pizza Hut, Catering by Design, Unilever, Murdi Paaki Regional Employment Corporation, McDonalds Dubbo.

I also note the collaboration of South Narrabeen, Narrabeen, Nth Narrabeen Surf Clubs and the Warringah Life Guards at South Narrabeen and Collaroy, Surf Life Saving at its best.

**Media;**

Interviews with 2SM (2SM covers most of the state and into Qld) 4 minutes, 2GB 3 minutes.

Chanel 7 News Friday night, news snippets Friday night and Saturday shown nationally Saturday.

NITV/ SBS. Plus on the Net.

Manly Daily, full page.

News Corp, Telegraph plus photos and video on the net.

Sydney Morning Herald Page 2/3.

Brewarrina News.

Pittwater News.

Over 1000 photos taken.

ABC are producing a doco which will be shown on ABC kids/ ABC BTN (Behind the News) a kids Current Affair Show which is shown across Australia to all schools.

**Jack Cannons AM**

**Founder Bush to Beach**

**"care for kids they are our future"**