

# Winston Hills Celestial Guides 2007-2008 Annual Report

In the lead up to the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Girls Guides in 2010 Celestial Guides have been reconnecting to the history of Guiding. In Term 1, several Celestial Guides, Bluebell and Arana attended the Hills Region Camp to celebrate the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the 1<sup>st</sup> ever Scout camp on Brownsea Island in England in 1907. This event was the birthplace of Scouting, which led to the founding of the Boy Scout movement in 1908, and consequently led to the founding of Girl Guides in 1910. In the lead up to camp, we improved our camping and outdoor skills, and learnt some valuable lessons on camp about how to cope with bad weather and getting on with new people in a camp situation.



Over the last 12 months we've been improving our rock climbing skills (for some a first!), putt-putted our way in the rain, shared our musical and drama skills, learnt about other cultures and Girl Guides and Girl Scouts in other places. Teamwork and leadership was a strong focus in Term 3, with our Patrol Leaders running a night for the unit, for many a first opportunity, and a job well done by all PL's with the support of their Patrol.

We finished the 2007 year off with a festive dinner at local Chinese Restaurant (complete with deep fried ice-cream), followed by the district event at the Aquatic Centre. In Term 1 2008 we participated in Clean up Australia Day, and follow up with a trip to the creek for Streamwatch and some discussion about our environment and our role in looking out for it.

We held a one-day camp in June, and some brave Celestial Guides attended the Taronga Zoo Sleepover in August, sleeping out in the elements with only a sleeping bag and their friends to keep them warm for the night. Great fun was had by all, and we hope to do it again this year. We held a Medieval-Princess Barbie Camp at Glengarry in Term 1 of 2008, a successful blend of 2 ideas! For some this was a first Guide camping experience, and both Arana and Kobi were impressed with the maturity all the Guides showed in pitching in and having a ball. A BIG thankyou to Kobi and the Supernova Guides for hosting us and being great mates.

We have seen many changes in the past 12 months as friends have joined us, and some have moved on. In Term 2 and 3 Boonana (Bernice Gruber) joined us as a leader. We've had a few girls join us from Billabongs, and sent a few more up to the Supernova's. Towards the end of Term 3, Boonana moved to Canberra, and we were sad to see her leave us. After almost 7 years as a Guide Leader at Winston Hills we farewellled Bluebell (Petrina Walker) as she left to start her family at the end of Term 4. Bluebell has been missed by us all this year, and we would all like to say a BIG THANKYOU to her for the commitment, enthusiasm, time, passion and friendship that she shared with us in her time with Winston Hills Guides. Goodluck with the Bub who is expected in less than a month now. We also welcomed Bilby (Christine O'Hare) as a "leader in training" at the end of Term 1 2008, who will be with us until the end of the year when she moves to Mt Isa.

In Term 3 we held a forum to participate in "Guide Say", a national Guide initiative to let Guides have their say on issues important to them. In 2008, we look forward to bringing together our celebration of the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Girl Guides with a re-discovery of what it means to be a Girl Guide in the "new millennium", we've come a long way in 100 years, and look forward to the future of Guiding.

Finally a big thankyou to all the parents and friends for supporting Winston Hills Guides.

Cheers all,

*Arana (on behalf on Bluebell and Boonana)*