



Mission Beach to Airlie Beach

2 – 7 March 2009



Welcome to the first issue of the 2009 Jet Trek Newsletter

Variety the Children's Charity Jet Trek is now going into its 11th year and is set to be another fantastic trek travelling across Queensland's amazing and scenic waters. In 2008, participants on the event travelled over 700 kilometers from Yeppoon to the beautiful Gold Coast.

In 2009, the Variety Yamaha Jet Trek will start at the relaxing, yet vibrant beachfront town of Mission Beach on Monday 2 March. Travelling down Queensland's coastline, the trek will visit Townsville, Bowen, Lucinda and Hamilton Island, with highlights of the Hinchinbrook passage and the Whitsunday Islands, before finishing at the picturesque Airlie Beach on Saturday 7 March.

With an expected 60 skis and over 100 participants joining the adventure, 2009's event will be one journey not to miss.

If you would like to be part of the **2009 Variety Yamaha Jet Trek** please register your interest by phoning the Variety Office on (07) 3368 3321 or visiting our website www.varietyqld.org.au for more information.

Team Innisfail

Every Jet Trekker from 2008 would remember "Team Innisfail" whose main focus was to raise as much money as possible to help a very special 10 year old girl who was in desperate need of an operation.

Lucy Hall required a liver transplant after her first transplant failed. Mark Magnanini and Gary Pedrola put their thinking caps on and went out to raise as much money as possible in their local town of Innisfail. Together with family, friends and the overwhelming support of the town, they raised just over \$20,000 which assisted Lucy, and other children in a similar situation to Lucy.

Lucy is now a fit and healthy 11 year old who enjoys running down the street with her dog Milo and attending school with all her friends.



Mark Magnanini & Gary Pedrola (Team Innisfail)
with happy and healthy Lucy Hall



Lucy cuddles Milo as they celebrate
her home coming.

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2009 Variety Yamaha Jet Trek

A message from Jet Trek event Chairman – Warren Chapman

The planning for Jet Trek 2009 – Mission to Airlie is well underway. The boys from the Northern Banana republic have checked out the route; Rob Goodwin and Mick Jones have plotted it on the maps and measured every leg, while Rob and Michelle have started ticking off the accommodation, so things are looking good. There are already several entries on the entry board including an unusual one from Bathurst which lists the craft at 320HP – We double checked and yes it's correct.

Yamaha are back on board again bigger and better and as major sponsor of the event for third year running, are helping us to promote the event. We have the brochures printed and they look great – just shoot me an email with a postal address and I can have some sent to you so you can circulate to PWC companies in your region. The more entries we get, the better for kids we help along the way. Before I get anymore flack for the artwork – NO, the Chairman did not select his own ski for the main promo shot, it was just coincidence. This year you will also be seeing marketing in Club Marine and OZ PWC magazines.

For those who did not hear the final wash up on the 2008 Jet Trek, the net profit was a whopping \$160,000 which was an incredible feat considering the event was almost on its knees three years ago. Today, it is up there as one of Variety Queensland's successful fundraising events that poses a challenge for this year – Can we beat it?

Two ways this will happen, first we need to reach the cap of 60 PWC's and secondly if we are all do some fundraising, we will clobber it. We were overrun with enthusiasm for fundraising while on the event and with next year bringing more people we want to funnel some of that enthusiasm into running fundraising events before we get on those skis. If anyone needs to ask how to run a fundraiser, just give me a call and I am only too happy to assist.

Photos and DVD update. I learnt a big lesson this year when I asked for people to send me their photos – I had over 3000 pictures sent to me to edit. After what seemed like an eternity, I managed to get them down to a compact 300+ slide show. You will need very good friends to manage to get them to sit through it. Next year I am going to ask for people to send only their top 30 pictures to share. I saw the first cut of the DVD last week and let me tell you, there is some sensational footage in it. It has gone back for final editing – some bloke in a green mankini needed to be cut out!! All should be out to you soon.

I hesitate even as I write this but hey we all need goals – Jet Trek 2009, Mission to Airlie – Mission Impossible – 60 PWCs and \$200,000. What do you think? Are you up for the challenge?

Cheers

Warren Chapman
Jet Trek Chairman



The Route

A BIG thank you to Mick Jones, Ryan Lacaze and Rob McCrae who have come together and given us a sneak peak including a few highlights of what we can expect for 2009.

Day One

Mission Beach ~ Lucinda

Highlights: Dunk Island and the family island group to the east, we head south to Hinchinbrook Island. Meeting the road crew at Cardwell for a double up through the magnificent protected waters of the Hinchinbrook Channel before meeting up again at Lucinda for lunch. The afternoon is then spent doubled up skiing across to Zoe Bay on the South East of Hinchinbrook Island where a short walk into the best waterfall and swimming hole in Queensland!

Day Two

Lucinda ~ Townsville

Highlights: Weather dependant, our options include a run out to Orpheus Island, a dedicated Marine Biology research Island. Then navigating through protected shores to Palm Isles and Greater Palm Island, this is where we are given the chance to meet the school kids before venturing South East to Horseshoe Bay on Magnetic Island for lunch and a cold beer. Run the nav's through Platypus Channel into Townsville. Not hard to pick out Mount Stuart in the background!

Day Three

Townsville ~ Burdekin

Highlights: Our remote run of the trek from Townsville, we head east nor east to Cape Cleveland and around the head turning east south east past Cape Woorra and Cape Ferguson while going across Bowling Green Bay to Cape Bowling Green (lets hope it as flat as a Bowling Green). From Cape Bowling Green south east to the Burdekin River and a short run up river to Groper Creek boat ramp.

Day Four

Burdekin ~ Bowen

Highlights: From the mouth of the Burdekin, east rounding Cape Upstart and then across Abbot Bay to Abbot Point and then to Cape Edgecumbe, while waving to the Light House which marks the North entrance between Stone Island and the mainland to Port Denison and our overnight digs in Bowen.

Day Five

Bowen ~ Airlie Beach

Highlights: Either through Gloucester Passage or around Gloucester Head (weather/time dependant) we enter the world renowned Whitsunday Islands. Our run may see us round Hook Island and down through Cid Harbour where the Pacific Fleet anchored during the Battle of the Coral Sea or outside Whitsunday Island to have rest at Hill Inlet, the most beautiful inlet in the world! Then onto the silica sands of Whitehaven Beach before heading back west to Hamo, Dent, Pine an Long Island before running north back up past Long, South Molle, Daydream, North Molle and into Airlie Beach our final destination.....too many Islands? There's 74 of em, take your pick!

Day Six

Airlie Beach – Lay Day

Highlights: As a group we ski our way to the beautiful Whitehaven Beach. This is a free day to do what you please. There's plenty to see around the Whitsundays from a lazy lunch and beer at the Hamilton Island Yacht Club, to snorkeling the many reefs that fringe all the island, checkout the aboriginal paintings in the caves of Nara Inlet, troll a lure through the tuna schools or try and entice a coral trout to take a bait drifting the shoals.....its all good

Event Information

2008 Variety Yamaha Jet Trek

I am sure all of you by now are on the edge of your seats waiting for the Wild Films DVD to be sent out.

Rest assured, it is on its way. We are just firming up the front cover design and other bits and pieces; it will be in your mail box very soon.

To keep everyone in anticipation for it a selection of photos will be loaded to the website shortly.



A REMINDER...

Registrations ~ secure your spot NOW!

To be part of this great journey to help Queensland's children in need please visit the Variety Queensland website, <http://www.varietycld.org.au/JetTrek/trek.htm>

The site has application forms and crew forms available for download or phone Erin Waites at the Variety Office on (07) 3368 3321 to discuss.

Fundraising

To enter the 2009 Variety Yamaha Jet Trek participants are encouraged to raise **\$1,500** or more for Queensland's children in need. Fundraising can be a lot of FUN and money can be raised in two main ways, sponsorship and fundraising events

If you require any help with fundraising the Variety Office is here to help you please talk directly to Erin Waites or Warren Chapman for some ideas.

Accommodation

The team at Variety are busy working away trying to get the best deals along the way for us all.

Keep your eyes peeled for more information.

Upcoming Variety Events

Variety Drinks – Friday 6 June

7 sleeps till the June Variety Drinks to be held at the Brewhouse, Sports Bar and Grill on Albert Street in the City. From 6.30pm onwards this is a great chance to come along and catch up with everyone in the lead up to this years Bash. See you there!!

Need for Speed – Friday 20 June

It's on again – The Variety Need for Speed is a fantastic day out at Kingston Park Raceway. Get yourself a team together and be prepared to test your mettle and go karting skills. \$2000 per team entry, with 4 people to a team, drinks and food included with plenty of celebrities on board this is FUN day for all involved. Contact Janette Irwin in the Corporate Events Team to book your place or for further information. (07) 3368 3321

Whitsunday Splash 1 – 6 September

Ahoy me maties – bookings have already commenced for Variety Whitsunday Splash and this year we start from Airlie Beach and it's your choice if you want to sail or motor a cruiser around Whitsunday Islands. For more information or to register your interest please contact Zoe Gillespie in the Variety Office on 07 3368 3321.

Variety Queensland Calendar of Events

Reminder that if you want your fundraising event communicated amongst the Variety family, just contact the office for your **"Request to Fundraise Form"** and once approved, your event will be included on our website "Calendar of Events". You tell us – we tell everyone else for you. The calendar is updated twice a month, so get in early.

Fiji Splash

Imagine downing tools at work, slipping on a sarong, slap on some sunscreen and a hat, and joining Variety Queensland's Fiji Splash from 8 – 14 June? Sounds good? Call Gael Chudleigh from Variety Queensland on 0458 – 683327 to book your cabin and to obtain more information. Enjoy!!

Variety Golf "Fore" Kids

There are two Variety Golf Days planned for 2009 and we envisage both will be bigger and better. Brisbane Indooroopilly, **Friday 18 July** then Gold Coast Lakelands, **Friday 22 August** is the "Mike O'Brien Memorial Cup". Variety is looking for sponsors and teams – please phone Janette at Variety Corporate Events 07 – 3368 3321.

4WD adventure to Hunter Valley 3 - 12 August

Variety Queensland's "Here to Hunter" 4WD adventure starts from Sirromet Winery (being 'here' in SE Qld) and head to the gorgeous Hunter Valley. No rest for the wicked as wine connoisseurs will enjoy a tippie or two as we discover boutique wineries along the way. To book your place on this amazing trip, call Erin Waites at Variety on (07) 3368 3321. Cheers !!

Variety Queensland Calendar of Events
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