

Anchorage News

Comings & Goings

- Daph's back, which is nice. We hope she's feeling fit as a fiddle.
- John Reynolds is in SA for a while to look after his sick brother.
- Bevan is back home again after some time away from the park.

'Our Economy'

We read a lot about how tough business is for Harvey Norman, Myer and David Jones at the 'big end', but with only a few exceptions, the 'little end' is also suffering. Many of our clients live in Southeast Queensland and have been directly or indirectly affected by the extraordinary weather over the last few months, which has left them unable ... or unwilling to think about holidays. During the winter we are happy to host large numbers from Southern New South Wales, Victoria and South Australia, many of whom are regular and welcome 'returnees'. However, many people we spoke to at the Melbourne Caravan Show, back in March, were of the opinion that the Nth coast of NSW and SE Qld were still flooded and had altered their travel plans accordingly. Fortunately, tourism organisations have recognized this threat to the historically strong winter influx and have committed considerable funds to try and correct the misinformation put about by the various media.

You can't have an advertising campaign without product, so we were asked to put together some good deals - which we have...

Full details are on our **Specials** page on the website, but essentially we have discounted site rates by 25% for stays of 7 days and 35% for cabins. For stays of 28 or more days on a powered/unpowered site, the discount is 35%. Typically cabin stays are shorter and we have a **'two-for-the-price-of-one'** deal through Tourism NSW book-on-line; plus our own 5 day stay in a Deluxe cabin for \$475 with a bonus of 'kids stay free'.

Rotary 'Concert'..... or more correctly, the *Theatre Restaurant*, where ageing 'would-be' thespians shed multiple years (and a few inhibitions) to provide previously unthought-of insights into songs and artists we all thought we recognized. The restaurant part is far less risqué and provides an superb three course meal prepared by our own culinary staff, headed by a specially trained chef (!?). Tea and Coffee is part of the excellent 'value for money' package...at a mere **\$30** per head. Other beverages (and glasses) are BYO. See **Anne** for tickets.

The Mad Hatter's Tea Party Will be an Invitation-Only event to be held on Toadstool Day, which for those of you not familiar with Alice in Wonderland, is the day after Fungi Night. (In other words, Wednesday July 20th, starting around noon.) Posters will advertise the event. Dress code is of course, *Alice in Wonderland*, with an emphasis on hats. If you like—*just* a hat!

The charm of fishing, is that it is the pursuit of that which is elusive but attainable, a perpetual series of occasions for hope!" - John Buchan

Sewerage for Iluka

For those of you reading this from afar and having heard about it as some mystical Utopian dream, you will probably be surprised to know that it is happening, with a completion date set at around the end of 2012. For those of us who have had expectations dashed many a time over the last 15 or so years, to actually see dirt moving is remarkable. A local wit was heard to observe that it 'was a clever cover up for the re-introduction of sand mining'.

Council has drawn a plan to sewer the park including: sites, cabins and all residents' homes. We have been trying to pin them down as to what they will be paying and what will be up to us—so far unsuccessfully. However, Council is on record saying that residents of Caravan Parks will be treated the same as other residents in Iluka. That is, they will be supplied a tank and pump connected to the homes electrical supply—at Councils expense. The resident will be responsible for plumbing connection to the tank and estimates vary between \$800—\$1500, depending on distance from tank, number of connections etc.

Top Tourist Conference & CRVA Conference..... Was held on the Gold Coast last month and attended by over 500 delegates from all over Australia. As usual the 3 days were packed with interesting speakers but the most thought provoking was a futurist - Morris Miselowski. This is one step up from a crystal ball! This man spoke for an hour—without notes—and challenged all of us with his view of the near and medium future. For instance; phone books will not exist within 5 years, the next 10 years will see the equivalent of 100 years of change, we will live a longer more active lifestyle...so look forward to working longer?

There are a few teachers among us, but they wish they'd thought of this...!

The Daily Joke - Plaster Cast

A school teacher injured his back and had to wear a plaster cast around the upper part of his body. It fit under his shirt and was not noticeable at all.

On the first day of the term, still with the cast under his shirt, he found himself assigned to the toughest students in school.

Walking confidently into the rowdy classroom, he opened the window as wide as possible and then busied himself with desk work.

When a strong breeze made his tie flap, he took the desk stapler and stapled the tie to his chest.

Discipline was not a problem from that day forth!