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Jump online: www.pipmillerpr.com.au to download full media kit



Wednesday, 6th August, 2008

This year marks my seventh Festival Cairns and for the seventh of seven festivals, I have produced a media kit with the aim that it provides you with a comprehensive and hands-on guide to the event and its multi-dimensional program.

This year I have fine-tuned the kit to be more concise with the program of events attached as an easy to navigate resource of factual information. This kit is also available on my website (go to Festival Cairns category) as a pdf file which you are free to download in kit or individual media release formats. Don't forget to check out my festival blog.

Images – we have hundreds – so please don't hesitate to call or email with your requests.

For interviews, key spokesperson is Narell Black, Operations Manager, Festival Cairns. Narell is a very busy lady – so if you can't get hold of her, please call me - I can handle general enquiries or put you in contact with the appropriate event manager.

Finally, if you need access to events or would like a media pass, please call.

- DON'T FORGET – FESTIVAL FRIDAYS FOR FOOD, DRINK, LIVE MUSIC & OF COURSE A TRUE FESTIVAL FLAVOUR @ BA 8, SHANGRI-LA BETWEEN 5PM AND 9PM -

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www.festivalcairns.com.au

And don't forget, have yourself a great festival!

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PRESS RELEASES FOR KEY INITIATIVES & EVENTS



- **FESTIVAL CAIRNS 2008 - A 25 DAY, 47 EVENT 'LOVE-IN' FOR CAIRNS & ITS ENVIRONMENT**
- **LOVE CAIRNS, LOVE YOUR BUSINESS - DRESS UP BUSINESS CAMPAIGN**
- **CAIRNS FAMILY MEDICAL CENTRE'S INAUGURAL LANTERN ART 08 COMPETITION - FOR STUDENTS**
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- **BDO KENDALLS SWING BY THE LAGOON**
- **HARBOURLIGHTS WINE & DINE LUNCH**
- **THE CALANNA ROTARY DUCK RACE**
- **FINALE LINE UP CAPS OFF ANOTHER FESTIVAL IN STYLE**



MEDIA INFORMATION

Wednesday 6 August 2008

FESTIVAL CAIRNS 2008 - A 25 DAY, 47 EVENT 'LOVE-IN' FOR CAIRNS & ITS ENVIRONMENT

In its seventh year, Festival Cairns 2008 promises the city and its growing community - a 25 day program of 47 events spanning music, art, sport, culture and entertainment.

Event partners, supporters and friends of Festival Cairns gathered this morning to celebrate the unveiling of this year's official program that will kick off in just three weeks on Wednesday 27 August with 100 Years of Australian Rugby League at Barlow Park.

Signified by a high energy blend of dancing girls, painted models and giant lollipops, the launch gathering served to create anticipation among guests for Festival Cairns and its imminent roll out - promising 'something for everyone'.

In her first year as Mayor of Cairns Regional Council, Councillor Val Schier was on hand to perform the official launch of an event she described as evolving from humble beginnings in 2002 to providing one of the best festival months on the east coast of Australia.

"Festival Cairns is a special celebration of who we are, our culture, our lifestyle and our multicultural diversity; especially in relation to the traditional owners of the land, who enrich this major festival through pro-active participation.

"With each year the festival encompasses a growing number of community-based activities right through to high-profile events such as Cairns Amateurs and extremely popular Parade of Lights.

"This gives potential visitors to our region another reason to consider visiting - quite separate to our natural attractions. It also gives locals a sense of pride, excitement and an appreciation of the enormous amount of talent in our midst," said Councillor Schier.

Now in her third year in the role overseeing what has become Queensland's largest community event, Festival Cairns operations manager, Narell Black took pleasure in unveiling this year's official program.

"Along with our traditional favourites, this year's highlight would have to be **Ergon Energy's Busking Festival**. Incorporating an Amateur Competition and culminating in a three day showcase of international performers, the aim of this event is to bring the city streets alive. Over the duration of Festival Cairns, locals and visitors will feast on a program of live entertainment on the Esplanade and in City Place.

"We invite the community to embrace this initiative through audience participation in the hope that this will become an annual fixture and major drawcard generating notoriety and visitors to Cairns," she said.

In 2008, Festival Cairns theme has been expanded from **Love Cairns** introduced last year to include Love the Environment.

“The reason for this is that to love Cairns, you need to love where you live. It really is a tropical paradise that has more strings to its bow than just its natural attractions. The people, the culture, the way of life - it’s the whole package. In addition to our second **Dress Up Your Business** Campaign, this year we are directing our attention to the region’s bounty of produce and through events such as **Food, Wine and All That Jazz** and newly created, **Harbourlights Wine and Dine Lunch**, we will showcase the region’s primary production and plethora of ingredients available for everyone to enjoy,” she said.

Mrs Black also remarked on the support and involvement by local art and entertainment venues which had specifically created a program of events for this year’s program.

“Festival Cairns would not be half the event it is today without the entertainment programs of The Tanks Art Centre and Cairns Civic Theatre along with Cairns Regional Gallery, CoCA and Cairns Libraries.

“From kids and families to music and adult entertainment, we have The Tanks to thank for a performing arts feast of some 11 high calibre events including **Ben Winkelman Trio, Jeff Lang, Dave Graney and Clare Moore, Carnival on Collins, Australian Poetry Slam 08, Kooky Cabaret, The Super Kids Circus Show and The Audreys and Palua Sooksook.**

“Cairns Civic Theatre’s program is just as prolific, albeit with a more classical twist. Events feature **Cairns Choral Society’s 2008 Gala Spectacular, Winner of the Sydney International Piano Competition, The Queensland Orchestra Kinetic Energy, Possum Magic - The Musical Live on Stage, Consentino’s Threshold, Ensembles, Arias and Pipe Organ, Big Band Spectacular and Cairns Concert Orchestra - A Night of Classical Music.** This venue also presents Cairns’ biggest dance battle, **Stomp the Nard** at the Esplanade Skate Park,” she said.

While some may judge the success of Festival Cairns on its higher profile ticketed events Narell Black says there is a lot to be said for the amount of free and family oriented activities.

“In the past few years we have focused on building our free, family oriented entertainment program. I believe we truly deliver on this front with a long line -up of events such as **Ergon Energy’s Busking Festival, Family Fun at the Pier and Schools Cultural Week, United - Youth Concert, Birch Carroll and Coyle’s Pictures in the Park, Carnival on Collins, BDO Kendalls Swing by the Lagoon, World’s Greatest Grill** and finale favourites, **Rotary Duck Events, Tropical Wave Festival, RACQ Insurance Parade of Lights and Cairns Ports Explosion of Lights.**”

While there are too many music events to mention, this genre is very well represented. In addition to events already mentioned at The Tanks and Cairns Civic Theatre, the community can look forward to a second **TimeOUT Concert** on Saturday 30 August bringing New Zealand hip-hop star, Scribe to share the bill with two of Australia’s hottest young rock bands, Faker and Kisschasy as well as reggae/roots act Blue King Brown who performed at last year’s **Reggaetown Festival** at Tjapukai Aboriginal Cultural Park. This event returns again in 2008 on Saturday 6 September with New Zealand’s stand out Reggae ambassadors, Katchafire, the Mana Maori Music Men as headline act. Also worth putting in the diary is Couch Music Search at Blue Sky Brewery on Wednesday 17 September that will showcase the live music scene in Cairns with the plan to uncover emerging local artists, singer-songwriters, instrumentalists and bands.

In a final note, Mrs Black introduced the concept of sport being a vital part of the region’s cultural make up.

“Unlike many other festivals in Australia today, Festival Cairns has a large dose of sport. In the first five days of our program, sport lovers can get stuck in with **100 Years Australian Rugby League, Queensland Cup Basketball Tournament and Festival of Sport**. And with events like **Subway Hoops Clinic, Festival Cairns Cup (yacht race), 2008 Red Centre to Gold Coast Trial (rally cars)** and the 50th Anniversary of **Cairns Amateurs Spring Racing Carnival** in between, the strong sporting presence is continued right throughout the program to finale day with **Reef Hotel Casino Masters Rugby Tournament**,” she said.

Festival Cairns gratefully acknowledges the support of its partners. These are headed up by foundation sponsors, **Presenting Partner, Pacific Toyota and Government Partner, Cairns Regional Council**. **Major Partners** include **Cairns Ports, Cairns Family Medical Centre, The Pier at the Marina, BDO Kendalls, RACQ Insurance and Ergon Energy**. **Festival Partners** include **Harbourlights, Shangri-La Hotel, Foster’s Group, Piccones Supa IGA and Birch Carroll and Coyle**. For a full list of **Festival Members and Media Partners**, consult the official program or website.

Festival Cairns 2008 will run from Wednesday 27 August to Saturday 20 September, 2008.

For further information about Festival Cairns 2008, click on www.festivalcairns.com.au or contact management company, Events Cairns on tel: 07 4051 0222 / email: info@eventscairns.com

Ends

For information, contact:

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LOVE CAIRNS, LOVE YOUR BUSINESS



Natalie Critchell from Balloons Etc fashioned a Rainbow Serpent above the Candy Bar of Festival Partner, Birch Carroll and Coyle to promote its involvement and give incentive to others - to participate in Festival Cairns' Dress Up Your Business Campaign

Natalie Critchell of Balloons Etc used hundreds of balloons and Festival Cairns cardboard stars and heart icons to decorate the candy bar of Birch Carroll and Coyle's Earville cinema. As a Festival Partner, Birch Carroll and Coyle was keen to lead the way and inspire other businesses to get on board this year's Dress Up Your Business Campaign. To do so, they looked no further than the creativity of Natalie Critchell at Balloons Etc..

"Given that the festival doesn't start until the end of the month and then it goes on for almost a month, we really needed something that would last the distance and have that WOW factor.

"My inspiration for the décor came from the icons in the "Decorate Your Business" starter pack that were most symbolic to me. They were the rainbow, the star and love heart.

"There was a nice blend with Birch Carroll and Coyle having stars all over their carpet and a rainbow of lollies on offer in their candy bar.

"In short, I would describe it as a rainbow serpent of colour that snakes its way around the top of the candy and ticket counter with a cascade of festival icons dangling beneath," said Natalie.

Following the success of last year's Dress Up Your Business Campaign, Pacific Toyota is once again giving local businesses the chance to dress up their premises and be in the running to win great prizes.

Festival Cairns Operations Manager, Narell Black is determined this year's festival and its "Love Cairns, Love the Environment" theme will be omnipresent throughout the city.

To help businesses on their way, every organisation that registers will receive a starter pack containing five festival icons which include leaping fish, twirling rainbows, green palm fronds, butterflies and love hearts.

The kits are available to all participating businesses, free-of-charge following registration. And there are some great prizes up for grabs:

- | | |
|----------------------|---|
| First Prize: | \$500 cash plus Birch Carroll and Coyle Movie Package, an advertising package in The Cairns Post and a feature on WIN Local News (weather) |
| Second Prize: | Birch Carroll and Coyle Movie Package |
| Third Prize: | Birch Carroll and Coyle Movie Package |

All prize winners will also receive tickets to the Festival Cairns VIP Finale event on Saturday 20 September 2008.

How to Register and Details of Competition and Judging

To register, download an entry form from www.festivalcairns.com.au or contact EventsCairns on tel: 4051 0222, write to PO Box 59W Cairns QLD 4870 or email: info@eventscairns.com

All businesses who register for the competition must be dressed up by Wednesday 20 August 2008 and leave in place until the end of Festival Cairns on Saturday 20 September 2008. The judging will occur between Wednesday 3 and Wednesday 10 September 2008. The winner will be contacted and details published in The Cairns Post on Saturday 20 September 2008.

Festival Cairns 2008 will run from Wednesday 27 August to Saturday 20 September, 2008.

For further information about Festival Cairns 2008, click on www.festivalcairns.com.au or contact management company, Events Cairns on tel: 07 4051 0222 / email: info@eventscairns.com

**CAIRNS FAMILY MEDICAL CENTRE'S INAUGURAL
LANTERN ART 08 COMPETITION**



Hundreds of left over lanterns created for last year's Festival Cairns finale highlight, The Parade of Lights, will be re-cycled, rejuvenated and refreshed as the foundation for Cairns Family Medical Centre's inaugural Lantern Art 08 competition for schools.

For the past four years Festival Cairns has staged its annual mural art competition, however this year it has been re-created into Lantern Art 08 in an effort to be resourceful and reflect this year's theme, Love Cairns, Love the Environment.

Students from around Cairns will be encouraged to register in this competition that promises a goody bag of cash prizes to the value of \$1000. Following registration, which will finish on Friday 19 July, students and their teachers or parents are invited to Festival Cairns Lantern studio in Mulgrave Road. From here they will select their lanterns to remodel and refresh using any material or fabric they see fit.

Judging will take place prior to the Parade of Lights procession on the final day of Festival Cairns 2008, Saturday 20 September. All lantern creators and their art work will then be displayed in a moving procession that makes up the Parade of Lights.

For further information, Karina at EventsCairns on tel: 40510222 or info@eventscairns.com

Festival Cairns 2008 will run from Wednesday 27 August to Saturday 20 September, 2008.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION: Visit the website on www.festivalcairns.com.au or contact Events Cairns on tel: 07 4051 0222 or email: info@eventscairns.com

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**GET UP NORTH & OUT THERE DURING SPRING WITH
FIRST FESTIVAL CAIRNS PACKAGE**



Spring is a simply sublime time to visit Cairns. The sun is out, the sky is blue and the city of Cairns has awakened to the beat of Festival Cairns. And now with the backing of seven vibrant events and status as Queensland's largest community festival, Festival Cairns 2008, in conjunction with accommodation partner, Rydges Hotels and Resorts, is beckoning visitors from around Australia to experience all the fun and frivolity with the release of two special touring packages.

With a multitude of free and ticketed events spanning music, sport, food and wine, entertainment and the traditional finale favourite, Parade of Lights procession, Festival Cairns will roll out over 25 days between Wednesday 27 August and Saturday 20 September, 2008 – promising something for everyone.

To celebrate Festival Cairns 2008, visitors from around Australia are invited to get in on all the action with a special accommodation package from one of three Rydges Hotels and Resorts in Cairns – Rydges Esplanade Resort, Rydges Tradewinds Cairns and Rydges Plaza Cairns.

Packages start from just \$111 per person (twin-share), per day including three night minimum stay in a standard room for two people, full day Kuranda Rainforestation Tour with BBQ lunch and return journey via Skyrail Rainforest Cableway and airport transfers.

With the added inclusion of a full day outer reef tour, a five night package is also on offer for just \$133 per person (twin-share), per day.

Festival Cairns manager, Narell Black said she is delighted to package the event for the first time in 2008.

“Over the past seven years, Festival Cairns has dramatically evolved and this year comes of age with a series of new innovations that include its holiday packaging.

“If you are planning a getaway in the next few months, why not make it to Cairns in August or September. Spring has sprung and Festival Cairns is on. Highlights on this year's event calendar are too long to list but include Food, Wine and All That Jazz, Ergon Energy's Busking Festival (5-20 September), Reggaetown 2008, Father's Day favourite, Carnival on Collins, Cairns Amateurs Spring Racing Carnival and finale spectacular, Parade of Lights procession along the waterfront on Saturday 20 September,” said Mrs Black.

Festival Cairns package bookings can be made direct with Banora International Group on tel: 0416 248 180 or email: info@edrec.com

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SHAKESPEARE HITS CAIRNS LIBRARIES



As part of Festival Cairns, Cairns Regional Council, Cairns Libraries and Shake and Stir Theatre Company will be presenting a new and amusing look at the works of William Shakespeare with workshops and a performance at the Cairns City Library.

FREE Will to shake Workshops will be held for students at Cairns City Library on **Thursday 28th, Friday 29th and Saturday 30th August**. Using a few of Shake and Stir's clever techniques from their Shakespeare bag of tricks including: *The Love of Insults*, *No Holds Bard*, *Hamlet in 5.5 mins*, *Take 5 Shakespeare* and *Romeo What Was Thou Thinking?* Shake and Stir will get even the novice performer acting confidently. For bookings and further information contact Lee on 4044 3797.

And then on Friday 29 August at 7.30pm

The company will be performing their enthralling new show – **Statespeare** – the story of two Shakespeare-mad nerds and two cool kids, forced together for their end-of-year drama presentation. Drawing from famous plays such as *Othello*, *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, *Romeo & Juliet* and *Macbeth* this hilarious and relevant play is sure to captivate audiences of all ages

All in the beautiful **Cairns City Library, 7.30pm, Friday 29 August 2008**. Tickets are **\$25**, available from Ticketlink www.ticketlink.com.au or 1300 855 835

For further information, contact: Lee Finkelstein, Special Services Librarian, Marketing Cairns Libraries on tel: 4044 3797 or email: l.finkelstein@cairns.qld.gov.au

Festival Cairns 2008 will run from Wednesday 27 August to Saturday 20 September, 2008.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION: Visit the website on www.festivalcairns.com.au or contact Events Cairns on tel: 07 4051 0222 or email: info@eventscairns.com

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**ERGON ENERGY ADDS A LIVELY BEAT TO CITY STREETS
WITH BUSKING FESTIVAL**



Picture: Alfred & Seymour – The Blackstreet Boyz from US will perform live on the streets of Cairns during Festival Cairns 2008

This September, Festival Cairns will add a lively beat to city streets with news today Ergon Energy will present the region's first ever busking competition culminating in a three day finale spectacular of international acts.

In essence, Ergon Energy Busking Festival is all about enlivening the streets of Cairns with all types of music and street performance.

Staged in the two key pitches (locations) of City Place and the Esplanade from Thursday **4 September to Saturday 20 September**, the program of street entertainment incorporates an Open Busking Competition for amateur performers of all ages and a three day program of four international acts that include such street headliners as world-class crazy break-dancing comedians from the US, Black Street Boys, New York based pogo stick tricksters, The Pogo Dudes, quirky unicyclist jugglers with hilarious ladder antics from New Zealand, Motley 2 and cocky Irish magician and illusionist, Patrick McCullagh.

Ergon Energy's corporate communications manager (far north), Gaylene Whenmouth said they are proud to get behind this new and exciting event that is all about introducing colour, movement and music to the streets of Cairns.

"We look forward to doing our bit to bring Cairns alive with street theatre that is bound to draw and delight crowds as talented musicians and buskers know how," she said.

For amateur buskers, the Open Busking Competition is an opportunity to win \$1000 in prize money for a small entry fee of just \$20 (permit included). There will be four heats held at City Place with judges selecting the best of the best based on content, performance and audience response.

The lucky amateur finalists will perform on the Esplanade stage and battle it out for the best local busker as well as the cash prize. This grand final judging will take place on Friday 19 September (4-6pm) – prior to finale day – and the winner will be determined by

a panel of professional street performers as well as Cairns Regional Council and Ergon Energy panellists.

Registrations for the Open Busking Competition are being taken now. Contact Claudette on tel: 07 4044 3715 or email name, age, contact details and act description to c.bartos@cairns.qld.gov.au. For more information, visit www.cairnsesplanade.com.au

With regards to the professional element of the festival, each of the four visiting professionals will perform six shows over Festival Cairns' three final days on Thursday 18, Friday 19 and Saturday 20 September. These performances of between 40 and 50 minutes duration will take place at both key pitches – City Place and the Esplanade – and be programmed in such a way that people can get to see each and every act.

Capping off a truly entertaining and cultural program on finale day, the Cairns community will be invited to enjoy a simultaneous performance featuring all professional buskers and amateur finalists as a highlight of the Parade of Lights procession along the esplanade.

According to Mrs Whenmouth, each international act has been carefully selected for its ability to work in a variety of situations and experience in working a crowd.

Festival Cairns 2008 will run from Wednesday 27 August to Saturday 20 September, 2008.

For further information about Festival Cairns 2008, click on www.festivalcairns.com.au or contact management company, Events Cairns on tel: 07 4051 0222 / email: info@eventscairns.com

Ends

For further information on Ergon Energy's Busking Festival, contact:

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Claudette Bartos
Registrations and information for Open Amateur Busking Competition
Cairns Regional Council
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Internet: www.cairnsesplanade.com.au

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**KATCHAFIRE TO HEADLINE REGGAE FESTIVAL
12 noon to 11pm, Tjapukai Aboriginal Cultural Centre
Saturday 6 September, 2008**

Australia's premier Roots Reggae event, Reggaetown Festival, introduces a new brand of groove when it takes place on Saturday 6 September 2008 at Tjapukai Aboriginal Cultural Park. This year's event features the sweet and saucy rhythms and harmonies of New Zealand's stand out Reggae ambassadors, Katchafire, the Mana Maori Music Men.

According to Reggaetown's event manager, Mickie Sellton of The Roots Music Agency, they have secured a coup with Katchafire - renowned for creating arguably the best Reggae in Oceania.

"Katchafire's albums and 2008 tours, that include dates in Hawaii and the United States, are spreading the love and Reggae message far and wide. We are fortunate to have them in our line up, they are our favourite Mana Maori Music Men who will perform two shows in Southport on their way north," said Mickie.

Since its humble beginnings in 1995, Reggaetown Festival (Formerly Kuranda Reggae Fest) has become an important and anticipated part of the region's cultural ecology and landscape as well as a well loved icon on Australia's festival calendar.

In past years Reggaetown Festival has been listed alongside Womad and Bluesfest as one of the top gigs of the year in Rhythms Magazine. The event has hosted names like Mad Professor(UK), OYABA (AFRICA), Jah Mason(JAMAICA), Blue King Brown, Cornerstone Roots and many more national, local and indigenous bands.

Culminating in the attendance of 2500 festival goers in 2007, Mickie says the success is based on a dynamic formula: soulful music, relaxing tropical surroundings and delicious food. Some good company helps too, bring your own or make new friends there!

"For Reggaetown, 2007 was a watershed year. I was lucky enough to be selected to attend John Butler's (JBSEED) Music Manager's Forum and was successful in my application for a Queensland Events' Regional Development grant that will be fundamental to the staging of this year's fixture.

"What Reggaetown offers people is a vibrant experience that captures the true spirit of the Tropics. The event is adored by fans worldwide for its special ability to engage and bring people together.

"Reggaetown spreads the messages of "one love", "respect" and "who feels it knows it," said Mickie.

Reggaetown 2008 is a key event on the Festival Cairns 2008 official program. For information, www.festivalcairns.com.au

Tickets for all shows on sale 25 June :

Cairns
www.Ticketlink.com.au
Tastey records - Grafton St Cairns
Brothers World of Entertainment www.brotherscairns.com.au
Southport Katchafire shows
Thursday 4th September and Friday 5th September
With Support Act Kingfisha
Tickets from Southport RSL 07 555 24200 or www.southportsl.com.au

For further information, images , interviews , radio jingles and detailed artist information, please contact:

Cairns – Mickie Sellton
The Roots Music Agency
Skype: reggaemickie
Mob: 0416037275
Email mickie@reggaetown.com.au
Web: www.reggaetown.com.au

Festival Cairns 2008 will run from Wednesday 27 August to Saturday 20 September, 2008.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION: Visit the website on www.festivalcairns.com.au or contact Events Cairns on tel: 07 4051 0222 or email: info@eventscairns.com

Ends

MEDIA INFORMATION

August 2008

FOOD, WINE & ALL THAT JAZZ **Saturday 6 September 2008 4pm – 10pm**



On Saturday 6 September, Events NQ will once again stage Food, Wine and All That Jazz – which is not surprisingly, one of Festival Cairns' most popular and iconic events.

Food, Wine and All That Jazz captures the true spirit of the tropical north in an enjoyable afternoon and evening of food, wine and song. This event is the perfect opportunity to sit back, relax and feast on delicious food showcasing the region's best restaurants and tropical produce – along with wines to match and first-class entertainment – performed live thanks to media partner, 4CA FM.

New in 2008 is the waterfront location on the Esplanade. Moving north to a prime spot adjacent the Esplanade Skate Park, this event is a rare and exclusive opportunity to get out in the great outdoors during spring.

Entry is just \$15 per person. Tickets that can be redeemed from one of the 12 presenting food and wine stalls are available for purchase inside the event enclosure. Corporate tables of eight and general admission can also be pre-purchased.

For bookings, contact Events NQ on tel: 4053 4577 or visit the website: www.foodandwineng.com.au

Festival Cairns 2008 will run from Wednesday 27 August to Saturday 20 September, 2008.

For further information about Festival Cairns 2008, click on www.festivalcairns.com.au or contact management company, Events Cairns on tel: 07 4051 0222 / email: info@eventscairns.com

Ends

**CAIRNS AMATEURS - CELEBRATING 50 YEARS
10 – 14 September 2008**



In 2008, Cairns Amateurs Racing Carnival will celebrate 50 years of spring racing when it is held between Wednesday 10th and Sunday 14th September 2008. This event is one of the major sporting, fashion and social highlights in the Festival Cairns official program.

For this year's golden anniversary, 'gold' will provide an apt and striking theme which is destined to provide dazzling impact throughout the week in everything from fashions on the field to special events.

For the past 50 years, the Cairns Amateurs Racing Carnival has been held at Cannon Park Race Course in Cairns, on and around the second Saturday in September. Its glittering program incorporates two days of horse racing and a host of social activities and special events.

The 'Amateurs' tradition started in 1959 at a small meeting that was all about bringing city and country together. And so Cairns Amateurs was born. From the outset it was an event that was readily embraced by the community and over the years has grown into one of Australia's premier spring horse racing carnivals.

Each year the city of Cairns swells by around 2000 visitors who travel from around Australia to attend the carnival. A large group of southern corporate executives and their guests attributed to corporate sponsorship, make up the visiting contingent.

Cairns Amateurs has wide appeal, not just horse racing enthusiasts - there really is something for everyone – horse racing, fashion, socialising and celebrities.

Social events include members-only and corporate functions, as well as events and areas for the general public on both race days. The beautiful mild September climate entices large crowds to enjoy the racing and entertainment conducted at the course.

The Far North Queensland Amateur Turf Club Inc. is a not-for-profit amateur horse racing club that operates the annual Cairns Amateurs Carnival.

The official program is as follows:

Wednesday 10 September 2008

- **Owners and Trainers Welcome Function – 6pm, Cannon Park Race Course**

Each year, to celebrate the start of the 'Carnival', the Cairns Amateurs holds a welcome function for all owners and trainers entering horses in the two-day racing program. This event is an informal gathering of local and visiting owners and trainers who attend as guests of the FNQATC Committee. Tradition dictates a special guest speaker presentation.

Thursday 11 September 2008

- **Fashion Parade Brunch 10am to 2pm, Cairns Convention Centre**

Thursday's traditional Morning Tea and Fashion Parade and the Ladies Corporate Lunch have become very popular over the years and as a result, in 2008, are being combined into one, Fashion Parade Brunch at Cairns Convention Centre. In effect this will allow a greater number of people to enjoy the fashions, celebrations and socially-charged atmosphere synonymous with these individual events. This year the highlight of this new event will be a tribute to 50 years in Amateurs fashions featuring a 'Fashion Flashback' of winning Fashions on the Field outfits.

For booking information, visit website www.cairnsamateurs.org.au or contact the Cairns Amateurs Office on tel: 07 4041 4911

- **President's Cocktails**

This **Members Only** function is the first official event of the Carnival. Members and their partners take the opportunity to kick-start the celebrations of the Cairns Amateurs at a cocktail party.

Friday 12 September 2008 – Ladies Day

- **Day one of Cairns Amateurs Racing Carnival's Two-Day Horse Racing Program**

On Ladies Day there are a total of eight races that include the Sir Sydney Williams OBE Trophy of \$20,000 sponsored by The Syd Williams Family, the Governor's Trophy of \$15,000 sponsored by the Reef Hotel Casino and a new addition to the program – the Lexus of Cairns 3 Year Old Handicap of \$25,000 (QTIS).

- **Fashions on the Field – Ladies Day**

Categories include Open Racewear and Millinery Award.

- **Corporate Marquee Area (Friday and Saturday)**

The corporate marquee area is very popular amidst businesses and organisations who use the spectacular atmosphere of the two-day racing carnival to entertain and impress clients.

Each marquee caters for a minimum of 50 people in a relaxed setting that allows guests to spend time in a social environment with a corporate aspect.

Food and beverages can be selected from a variety of menus and platters, with the emphasis on casual dining. Each marquee has a dedicated food attendant, signage is provided at the entrance and interior decoration can be provided by the company or business holder. All Marquee holders have access to an onsite Area Supervisor during the Carnival.

- **Garden Party (Friday and Saturday)**

The relaxed setting of the Garden Party invites members of the public to purchase tickets for an 'exclusive' area that provides reserved seating and is located a short walk to the finishing line. This area has grown in popularity since it began a few years ago and is one of the first areas to sell out at the Carnival. The Garden Party operates on both days of racing at the Carnival.

Tickets (inclusive of gate entry, lunch and afternoon tea and seating in a reserved area) can be purchased individually or for tables seating 10 people.

- **Club Dinner at Tobruk Pool – Member's and their Guests only**

The first Club Dinner was held in 1959 at Cannon's farm – a beautiful property south of Cairns in White Rock owned by George and Dorothy Cannon. Around 400 people attended the event which was held at the Cannon Farm for 20 years.

In 1979, the event was moved to the Tobruk (Memorial Baths) Pool and the extended space allowed for additional attendees and a grander function.

Often referred to as the "Pool Ball", the Club Dinner continues to be held at the Tobruk Memorial Complex. This function caters for 2,500 people in a tropical outdoor setting and tickets sell out early in the year.

As it is such a gala event, the preferred dress code at the Club Dinner, for both members and guests is Black Tie, with a lounge suit and tie as the minimum requirement for men. Dress standards must be adhered to by all Members and their Guests or entrance may be refused.

Saturday 13 September 2008 – Cairns Amateurs Cup Day

- **Day two of Cairns Amateurs Racing Carnival's Two-Day Horse Racing Program**

Day two of Cairns Amateurs Racing Carnival featuring seven races including the running of the Macarthur Coal Classic of \$18,500, the CEC Group Handicap of \$18,500 and feature race - the Carlton Draught Amateur Cup of \$55,000.

- **Fashions on the Field – Cairns Amateurs Cup Day**

Categories include 25 years and under, Open Classic Racewear and Best Dressed Couple.

- **Picnic in the Park**

For further information, contact Cairns Amateurs Office on tel: 07 4041 4911

Festival Cairns 2008 will run from Wednesday 27 August to Saturday 20 September, 2008.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION: Visit the website on www.festivalcairns.com.au or contact Events Cairns on tel: 07 4051 0222 or email: info@eventscairns.com

BIRCH CARROLL & COYLE PICTURES IN THE PARK

Thursday 11 September – Saturday 13 September 2008



There's nothing better than catching a movie under the stars during Spring. So says Festival Partner, Birch Carroll and Coyle who present a three night open-air cinema program in Fogarty Park.

This free, all ages activity is the perfect family outing. The only requirement is comfort and this is assured by bringing your own blanket, picnic and drinks. Popcorn and ice-creams will be for sale in the park. Entertainment will be provided prior to each movie and on Saturday 13 September, The Tanks Arts Centre proudly presents The Flicks – a collection of exciting new works from young and emerging film makers from the local region.

Pre-movie entertainment begins at 6pm. For further information and a full movie list, check out www.festivalcairns.com.au or tel: 40 51 0222.

Festival Cairns 2008 will run from Wednesday 27 August to Saturday 20 September, 2008.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION: Visit the website on www.festivalcairns.com.au or contact Events Cairns on tel: 07 4051 0222 or email: info@eventscairns.com

Ends

**BDO KENDALLS SWING BY THE LAGOON
Sunday 14 September 2008 3pm to 5pm**



On Sunday 14 September, 2008, Festival Cairns major partner, BDO Kendalls will once again present Swing by the Lagoon featuring the Military Band of the First Battalion Royal Australian Regiment (1RAR).

And in just their second ever public appearance, The Cairns Youth Stage Band will be accompanied by the Hotshots Big Band – one of the few regularly performing big bands in the country.

From 3pm to 5pm on Cairns Esplanade, BDO Kendalls Swing by the Lagoon promises a spectacular musical display that will cover swing hits from the era of World War 11, the jazz standards of the American big band leaders, right up to the modern hits of Robbie Williams. Modern rock and vocal numbers will be a regular part of the program with an 'all in' big band bracket likely to feature.

This is a free event that will appeal to audiences of all ages. BYO picnic blanket and refreshments.

Festival Cairns 2008 will run from Wednesday 27 August to Saturday 20 September, 2008.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION: Visit the website on www.festivalcairns.com.au or contact Events Cairns on tel: 07 4051 0222 or email: info@eventscairns.com

MEDIA INFORMATION

August 2008

HARBOURLIGHTS WINE & DINE LUNCH

- On the Waterfront, Marlin Parade -

Friday 19 September 2008, 12 Noon



Picture: Dundees View of the Inlet will Delight Lunchgoers at Harbourlights Wine & Dine Lunch

This year on Friday 19 September, Sebel Harbourlights will host an inaugural event showcasing the city's newest and most exciting restaurant strip on the waterfront overlooking Trinity Inlet.

Harbourlights Wine and Dine Lunch is a newcomer to the official program of Festival Cairns 2008 and one that is destined to set the pace when it comes to lunch time wining and dining. Incorporating a three course lunch by Olanos, Dundees on the Waterfront and Café Lumiere restaurants, guests can expect to feast on the region's bounty of tropical foods with wines to match by Red + White and The Wine Company.

Speaking on behalf of fellow restaurateurs, the manager of Dundees on the Waterfront, Tina Wort said this event would be one to remember. Not only is it an opportunity to relax with friends in a beautiful location, it is the chance to celebrate tropical dining and entertainment by local musician, Simon Harris and his band, Front Ear.

"The boardwalk in front of our restaurants will be set in a festive line of tables – each with a small gap in between. This allows people to book an entire table to themselves. After a welcome glass of champagne, guests will be invited to sit by our emcee, Laura Pike, before commencing the lunch time menu of an entrée by Olanos, main dish by Dundees on the Waterfront and delicious dessert platter by Café Lumiere," she said.

Lucky Door Prizes and the chance to win a sleepover dining package at Sebel Harbourlights will be up for grabs to win throughout the afternoon.

Bookings are now being taken. To secure a place – or indeed, an entire table of 10, at this indulgent afternoon of fine fare, contact Tina Wort at Dundees on the Waterfront on email: manager@dundees.com.au or tel: 4051 0399.

Tickets are \$80 per person or \$800 for a table of 10. Tickets include live entertainment, champagne on arrival, entrée, main and dessert as well as a glass of wine matched to each course.

Festival Cairns 2008 will run from Wednesday 27 August to Saturday 20 September, 2008.

For further information about Festival Cairns 2008, click on www.festivalcairns.com.au or contact management company, Events Cairns on tel: 07 4051 0222 / email: info@eventscairns.com

THE CALANNA ROTARY DUCK RACE

On you ducks, get set, go! Ticket sales for this year's Calanna Rotary Duck race have begun...



This event, which will once again raise money for Harald's House in 2008, is one of Festival Cairns' most popular events – drawing crowds to witness up to 10,000 plastic ducks racing their little hearts out on the Esplanade Lagoon. As per tradition, this event will take place at 4pm on Saturday, 20 September 2008 as part of Festival Cairns' finale celebrations.

According to duck race organiser, Sally Dixon, the Calanna Rotary Duck race has been held over the past four years - raising over \$100 000 for charities.

The tickets are \$5 and from this week, will be available for purchase from Cairns Show (watch out for the roving duck), any ANZ branch in the Cairns area or Calanna Pharmacy. There are four prizes up for grabs including a \$10,000 spa and a trip to New Zealand for four people.

This year's duck race has been greatly expanded to feature an afternoon program of duck related events beginning with a 'blessing of the ducks' and traditional Aboriginal dance.

"In conjunction with this year's duck race, we are also hosting "Harcourts Crikey-Catch-a-Croc Spectacular" with all children welcome to enter. There will be a limit number of crocs. Children will have the opportunity to fish one of these crocs out of the lagoon to win a stunt bike," said Sally.

The entry fee for "Harcourts Crikey-Catch-a-Croc Spectacular" is \$10. Entry forms will be available from Harcourts or on the day. This event will be held at 1pm at the Lagoon.

The duck themed events continue with a first in 2008 - the "Myer Fashion Parade". Models will strut their stuff down at duck headquarters on the Esplanade Lagoon - wearing the latest swimwear fashion from Myer. This will be immediately followed by a more tongue-in-cheek event, "Myer Fashion on the Duck Field" held at 2.00pm. This event is open to all who wish to dress up in their finest "Duck" costume to win \$500 shopping spree from Myer. Entry to this event is \$10.

And finally, there will be a celebrity duck race which is being kept under wraps. This event is based on four celebrity ducks being auctioned – which are then required to swim to the half way line.

In addition to the afternoon duck program, there will be plenty of things to do for the whole family on Festival Cairns finale day.

Festival Cairns 2008 will run from Wednesday 27 August to Saturday 20 September, 2008.

Ends

FINALE LINE-UP CAPS OFF ANOTHER FESTIVAL IN STYLE

25 days, 47 events and suddenly it is the finale that this year will take place in true Festival Cairns style on Saturday 20 September with an action-packed line up that gets underway from 10.30am.

The final day kicks off with a multi-cultural flavour in Fogarty Park with the Tropical Wave Festival that runs for 12 hours from 10.30am. This event is presented by CARMA Cairns and Region Multicultural Association. This free event celebrates Cairns and its rich, diverse and multi-cultural community through art, craft, food, music, song, dance and storytelling.

At 11am on Cairns Esplanade, don't miss international busker, Patrick McCullagh perform comedy, magic and illusion as part of Energy Energy's Busking Festival. At 1pm, it's more busking with The Pogo Dudes from New York performing extreme pogo tricks and comedy. Then at 5pm, all these guys, as well as Bike Boy and Motley Two, come together to warm up the crowds lining the streets for the annual Parade of Lights.

At around 1pm Rotary's Duck Events get underway with Harcourts Crikey Catch A Croc and "Myer Fashion on the Duck Field" and fashion parade at 2pm, The Rotary Corporate Duck Race at 3m and not forgetting, the main event, Calanna Rotary Duck Race between 10,000 rubber ducks racing it out in the lagoon at 4pm.

Just as the sun goes down, the lights come on and spectators in their thousands will line the esplanade for the beginning of RACQ Insurance's Parade of Lights. Now in its 41st year, the parade is a much-loved staple in the Festival Cairns program and is bound to delight the crowds with spectacular floats and processions decorated to convey this year's Love Cairns, Love the Environment theme.

And just as the finale float passes through the finish line, the excitement hits fever pitch with – bang! Fireworks explode and emblazon the night sky - people rush from their seats on the esplanade for a front row view of the inlet and Cairns Ports amazing Explosion of Lights.

For some it is time to go home and say goodnight to another Festival Cairns. For others, its party time and there's loads still to be enjoyed with the free music in Fogarty Park that is all part of the closing hours in CARMA's Tropical Wave Festival.

For further information: website www.festivalcairns.com.au or phone EventsCairns on **07 4051 0222 or email info@festivalcairns.com.au**

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MEDIA INFORMATION

August 2008

MUSIC

In 2008 Festival Cairns has successfully created a music program that is destined to be hailed for its quality and diversity. From choir singing to contemporary jazz and modern rock, there is a choice of some 23 different music orientated events guaranteed to please.

The Tanks Art Centre leads the way with five music events headlined by South Australia's ARIA Award winning blues and roots band, **The Audreys**. While they will take to the stage with tunes from their second release, 'When the Flood Comes' on Friday 19 September, the music program gets underway three weeks earlier with contemporary jazz piano group, **Ben Winkelman Trio** on Friday 29 August and eloquent guitarist and vocalist, **Jeff Lang** the following night on Saturday 30 August.

On Friday 5 September, The Tanks has a treat in line with one of Australia's greatest songwriters and former king of rock, **Dave Graney**. Together with his wife **Clare Moore** and enigmatic new guise, **The Yellow Lurid Mist** – will showcase material from their new CD – We Wuz Curious.

The final musical score on The Tanks Festival Cairns music program features a truly special performance by **Paluai Sooksook Cultural Dance Group** from PNG who will perform under the stars in the outdoor amphitheatre on Thursday 18 September.

For tickets to any one of **The Tanks Art Centre's** music events, contact Ticketlink on www.ticketlink.com.au or tel: 1300 855 835 or tel: 07 4031 9555. Alternatively, check out the website at The Tanks Art Centre www.tanksartcentre.com.au / tel: 07 4032 6600.

The city's second annual **TimeOUT Concert** is shaping up to be 'bigger than Ben Hur' when it is staged in the new venue of Cairns Showgrounds on Saturday 30 August. This year the event has attracted some of the hottest headliners from Australia and overseas with New Zealand hip-hop stars Scribe sharing the bill with Aussie rockers, Faker, Kisschasy and reggae/roots act, Blue King Brown. This all-ages gig will also feature the region's young and emerging musicians who have battled it out for a place in TimeOUT's Battle of the Bands. Tickets are available \$50 pre-sale or at the gate from 3pm for \$60. The concert will run from 4pm to 10pm. For more information, jump online www.cairns.com.au/timeout or tel: Maria Recker 07 4052 6681.

Cairns Civic Theatre's program is a feast of classics, choir, instrumentalists and more. It gets underway with a two day season of **Cairns Choral Society's 2008 Gala Spectacular presented by Cairns Regional Council** on Saturday 30 and Sunday 31 August, 2008. This year's gala will showcase the best of the north including the Choral Society, Cairns Brass, the Cairns String & Concert Orchestras, Cairns Young Voices, the Julia Macalpine Dancers and some of Cairns' finest soloists. For concert times and ticketing information, contact Ticketlink on www.ticketlink.com.au tel: 1300 855 835 or information, tel: 07 4031 9555.

On Monday 1 September, the program continues with a one night only concert

showcasing the **Winner of the Sydney International Piano Competition presented by Cairns Regional Council**. The competition was inaugurated in July 1977 and is held every four years – as such it is recognized as one of the world's great competitions. Don't miss this exclusive performance by the winner. Tickets from \$16 per person from Ticketlink www.ticketlink.com.au or tel: 1300 855 835.

The Queensland Orchestra Kinetic Energy is set to raise the roof of Cairns Civic Theatre on Thursday 4 September and again on Friday 5 September (two morning concerts for Primary and Secondary students). Beethoven's Violin Concerto, the Mt. Everest of the violin repertoire, will be performed by Yehudi Menuhin protégé and 2006 Paganini Competition winner, Feng Ning. The thrills continue with Marco Zuccarini conducting Tchaikovsky's magnificent Fifth Symphony. For concert times and ticketing information, contact Ticketlink on www.ticketlink.com.au tel: 1300 855 835 or information, tel: 07 4031 9555.

The next event on the Cairns Civic Theatre program takes place on Thursday 11 September with **Big Band Spectacular** presented by Cairnsbands. Cairnsbands and the Military Band of the First Battalion Royal Australian Regiment (1RAR) present the fourth of their annual concerts to the people of Cairns and follow up on 'full house' Festival Cairns performance of last year. The Cairns Youth Stage Band will open with its first public appearance. Tickets from \$12 from Ticketlink www.ticketlink.com.au or tel: 1300 855 835 or information on tel: 07 4031 9555.

Schools Cultural Week 2008 presented by Cairns Regional Council will take place in Fogarty Park on Thursday 4 and Friday 5 September culminating in all-ages youth gig, Sneaky Beats at the Esplanade Lagoon on Saturday 6 September.

Schools Cultural is a free event that will feature over 20 schools and hundreds of students performing a range of entertainment from choirs and string ensembles to rock bands and interpretive dance. Also free of charge is **Sneaky Beats** combining local young emerging bands and solo performers to mark the end of Schools Cultural Week 2008.

Reggaetown Festival will once again provide a joyous afternoon in the rainforest surrounds of Tjapukai Aboriginal Cultural Park on Saturday 6 September between 12 noon and 11pm. This year's headliners, Katchafire top the bill of this year's 6th annual event and are supported by over a dozen renowned bands playing roots, reggae, dub ska and related rhythms. Along with live shows, there'll be great selection of dj's, a new Murri program, workshops, garden bar and delicious food stalls. See website www.reggaetown.com.au for latest lineup and information. Alternatively, contact event organizer, Mickie Sellton on mob: 0416 037 275.

Food, Wine and All That Jazz on Saturday 6 September is another music oriented event that has been re-vamped to take place in a bigger and better position on the Esplanade adjacent to the Skate Park. 4CA FM will feature a live music program. For information, www.foodandwinenq.com.au or tel EventsNQ on 07 4053 4577.

While **Carnival on Collins** is a multi-dimensional street party with over hundreds of stalls, entertainment, arts and cultural – it does in fact feature three exciting stages of live entertainment with over 20 performances including special guests – **Women in Docs**. Sunday, 7 September, Collins Avenue, Flecker Botanic Gardens and Tanks Art Centre - 9am to 3pm.

A wonderful new family friendly event gracing this year's program is **United – Youth Concert in Fogarty Park** on Sunday 7 September. Presented by Cairns Christian Ministers Network in cooperation with the Christian Churches of Cairns, present an evening of dance, contemporary worship, artistic expressions and prayer for the blessing of Cairns. Featuring the renowned 'Shakinah' dance crew, a live band, and 'The Dogs' – drummers of Good Shepherd. From 5pm to 7pm. For information, contact John Wedrat tel: 07 4057 6438.

The next bill on the Festival Cairns 08 music program is annual favourite, Ensembles, Arias and Pipe Organ at Cairns Presbyterian Church on Wednesday 10 September from 8pm. Instrumental groups and choirs, gifted aria singers and pipe organ performers will all come together to captivate and entertain in this one night only concert. Tickets from \$7 at the door. For information, contact: Margaret Duffy OAM tel: 07 4053 2630.

Gracing the music program is an interesting event for would-be 'drummers'. **Drum Up Big** is a call for all drummers who would like to feature in this year's Festival Cairns finale highlight, RACQ Insurance Parade of Lights. Tara Tucker will teach two festival drumming workshops in the lead up to the parade. No experience is needed and drums will be available for hire and sale. The free workshop program is on Wednesday 10 and 17 September between 7pm and 8pm at Yorkeys Knob Community Centre. The parade is from 6pm and 8pm on Cairns Esplanade on Saturday 20 September. For information, email: drumupbig@hotmail.com

The Esplanade really is the place to take the family during Festival Cairns. On Sunday 14 September, **BDO Kendalls will present Swing by the Lagoon** from 3pm to 5.30pm. This free event featuring The Military Band of the First Battalion Royal Australian Regiment (1RAR) who are returning to Cairns to dazzle audiences with their spectacular musical display.

And in just their second ever public appearance, The Cairns Youth Stage Band will be accompanied by the Hotshots Big Band – one of the few regularly performing big bands in Australia. The musical program will cross all genres from jazz to big band to modern pop, rock and vocal numbers. For information, contact: www.festivalcairns.com.au

Yet another new event in 2008 is **COUCH Music Search at Blue Sky** Brewery on Wednesday 17 September from 7.30pm at the brand new Blue Sky Brewery in Lake Street. The who gist of this event is to unearth emerging local artists, singer-songwriters, instrumentalists and bands. Registration is \$10 and spectators are free. All proceeds from registration will be donated to local cancer charity, COUCH. To find out more, or to enter, contact Blue Sky Brewery on tel: 07 4051 7920 or email: info@blueskybrewery.com.au

Two days later and it is almost the end of the official music program – bar CARMA's Tropical Wave Festival on finale day in Fogarty Park – with **Cairns Concert Orchestra**. This night of classical music on Friday 19 September at the Rondo Theatre features soprano Lauren Hannay and string music under the expert directorship of guest conductor Malcolm Cole. Tickets from \$10. Contact Rowan Allison: 0409 590 001 or tel: 07 4034 1186 or Sue Stitt tel: 0407 639 141 or tel: 07 4045 2024

For another dose of fine music, register now for new event, **Harbourlights Wine and Dine Lunch** on Friday 19 September featuring musician Simon Harris and his band Front Ear – who will entertain guests feasting on a delicious three course lunch by Olanos, Dundees on the Waterfront and Café Lumiere matched by wines from Red + White and The Wine

Company. Presented by Sebel Harbourlights. For tickets \$80 per person and information, contact Tina Wort, Manager of Dundees email: manager@dundees.com.au

Last and in no way, least is the 12 hour entertainment program brought free to the community on finale day in Fogarty Park thanks to **CARMA's Tropical Wave Festival**. For a multi-dimensional, multicultural blend of art, craft, music, song, dance, storytelling, workshops, demonstrations and food – head on down to the Esplanade between 10.30am and 10.30pm. For information, contact: Olive Tau Davis on tel: 0401 469 272.

For further information: website www.festivalcairns.com.au or phone EventsCairns on 07 4051 0222 or email info@festivalcairns.com.au

Ends



The Audreys will headline The Tanks Art Centre's music program in 2008

VISUAL ARTS

With the support of KickArts Contemporary Arts, Cairns Regional Gallery and Tanks Art Centre and their program of exhibitions, Festival Cairns 2008 dishes up a visual feast showcasing talented artists of all ages and genres including the region's best and beyond.

For an overview of exhibitions on show during Festival Cairns, here is a venue-by-venue précis:

KICKARTS CONTEMPORARY ARTS

- **CRAIG KOOMEETA – NEW SCULPTURES FROM AURUKUN – Wednesday 27 August to Saturday 20 September 2008**

In association with the Wik and Kugu Arts and Crafts Centre, KickArts will be presenting new sculptures by Aurukun sculptor, Craig Koomeeta. Craig often carves sculptures such as crocodile – out of wood, but also works with bronze and aluminium.

- **BIG – INSIDERS EXHIBITION – Friday 29 August to Saturday 20 September 2008**

KickArts in partnership with Ergon Energy, will present the Annual Insiders Exhibition and Auction. This year's Insiders Show theme is 'BIG' – it is all about small works with big ideas.

- **SWEET TOOTH – AN EXHIBITION BY JENNY VALMADRE – Saturday 6 September to Saturday 1 November 2008**

Sweet Tooth is a ceramic and mixed media sculptural exhibition that plays with the idea of cake, icing, edibility and cultural significance. This exhibition pays homage to those who help mark and celebrate the occasions of importance in people's lives.

- **NUDGE, NUDGE, WINK, WINK – AN EXHIBITION BY SIMON POOLE – Saturday 6 September to Saturday 20 September 2008**

Cairns artist Simon Poole will be presenting works as a part of his 'Cultural Landscapes Series'. With a digital tweak, and a dash of tongue-in-cheek – Simon has produced satirical contemporary works that speak of bias and social paranoia within a generation.

Admission is FREE to all four of KickArts' exhibitions featured as part of Festival Cairns official program. Contact: KickArts Program Officer, Sam Creyton on tel: 4050 9494 www.kickarts.org.au

CAIRNS REGIONAL GALLERY

- **CUISINE & COUNTRY – A GASTRONOMIC VENTURE IN AUSTRALIAN ART – Saturday 2 August to Saturday 6 September 2008**

A diverse range of historic, modernist and contemporary artworks – this exhibition is

designed to take audiences on a gastronomic odyssey through distinctive Australian artworks inspired by food and related matters.

- **EARTH LINKS – Friday 8 August to Sunday 5 October 2008**

An international showcase of ceramics from Cairns' sister cities across the globe. Ceramicists from Sidney (Canada), Riga (Latvia), Minami and Oyama (Japan), Zhanjiang (China) and Lae (Papua New Guinea) will be participating along with potters from the Cairns region. Works range from village pottery to contemporary ceramics.

- **ANNE AH GEE – DESERT TO THE GOLD COAST & ALL THAT IS IN BETWEEN – Saturday 6 September to Sunday 12 October 2008**

Ah Gee's colourful landscapes explore and document the rich tapestry of people, festivals and places she has experienced on her journey from Broken Hill to Cairns.

- **LENORE HOWARD – NEW DIRECTIONS – Friday 12 September to Sunday 26 October 2008**

Lenore Howard is a beautiful painter of quite remarkable images; powerful, beautiful, sensual, dramatic and challenging. Howard works in a genre in which the artist creates a bridge to a different kind of existence where logic and reason are displaced.

Admission is \$5 for Adults – Children under 16 years are FREE. Contact: Tricia Davey on tel: 4046 4800 or www.cairnsregionalgallery.com.au

THE TANKS ART CENTRE

- **2008 CREATIVE GENERATION EXHIBITION – Wednesday 20 August to Friday 19 September 2008**

The State Government Minister's Awards Exhibition tours across Queensland, with Tanks now proudly hosting this rich display of works from emerging young artists, showcasing 50 selected works, submitted by senior visual art students from across the state.

- **ENERGY 2008 EXHIBITION – From Friday 22 August to Friday 12 September 2008**

Sponsored by Ergon Energy, this exhibition showcases two and three dimensional visual artworks – selected from over 14,000 secondary students throughout Tropical North Queensland.

Admission is FREE to both Tanks exhibitions. All welcome to attend official launch on Friday 29 August at 6pm. Contact: www.tanksartcentre.com.au

For further information: website www.festivalcairns.com.au or phone EventsCairns on 07 4051 0222 or email info@festivalcairns.com.au

Ends

MEDIA INFORMATION

August 2008

PERFORMING ARTS

From Shakespeare in the Library to children's musicals, dance, poetry, adult cabaret and contemporary theatre, Festival Cairns 2008 features a strong performing arts program where there is something for all ages and persuasions.

Aspiring drama students get the first laugh between Thursday 28 August and Saturday 30 August when Cairns Libraries presents **Shakespeare in the Library**. Shake & Stir Theatre Company from Brisbane will be in town to conduct a series of absorbing Shakespeare workshops in Cairns City Library throughout the festival. The company will also be performing their enthralling new show, Statespeare – the story of two Shakespeare mad nerds and two cool kids – forced together for their end of year drama presentation. Wil2Shake Workshops are free of charge with Statespeare performances \$25 per person. Tickets are available through Ticketlink on www.ticketlink.com.au or tel: 1300 855 835. For information, contact Lee Finkelstein : tel: 4044 3797.

This year The Tropical Writers' Group of Far North Queensland will present **The Tropical Writers' Festival** at Shangri-la Hotel on Saturday 30 and Sunday 31 August. This event offers workshops on poetry, playwriting, networking, book sales and opportunities for readers to meet favourite published local authors. A literary dinner will feature international guest artist author Nick Earls, the festival is designed to be fun and inspiring. Also featured is guest playwright Alex Broun (Short and Sweet Play Festival) who is keen to share his passion for the very short play. The Tropical Writers' Festival is designed to offer real outcomes from workshops with presentations of work at the Tanks Writers' Market later in the year. For further information, contact: www.tropicalwritersfestival.com or artsnexus.com.au

Then on Thursday 4 and Friday 5 September, senior students studying senior drama at St Augustine's College and St Monica's College will be out to impress as the take to the stage with a performance featuring an adaptation of Eugene Ionescu's 'The Lesson'. This will be followed by another adaptation from the Theatre for Young People text titled 'The Formal' – a comedy by Sue Murray that gives insight into the lead up to a school formal. **Theatre for Young People** will be staged from 7pm each night at McLaughlin Theatre at St. Augustine's College. Entry is Free. For information, contact Loredana Citraro: tel: 07 4042 4800.

When it comes to high octane performance, **Ergon Energy's Busking Festival** has it covered – bringing beat to the streets between Thursday 4 September and finale day, Saturday 20 September. Kicking off with an Amateur competition (between 4 September and Friday 19 September) in City Place and Cairns Esplanade, the highlight is definitely the line up of international performers who will take to the streets on Thursday 18, Friday 19 and Saturday 20 September. For information, contact: www.cairnesplanade.com.au or www.festivalcairns.com.au for times.

Little kids will gather at the stage of the Cairns Civic Theatre for one of four shows in the two day season of **Possum Magic – The Musical Live on Stage**. Based on Mem Fox's classic picture book, the stage production of Possum Magic has been stylishly embellished into a rollicking Australian musical. The musical opens on Saturday 6 September with a 6pm show. Tickets from \$10 are available from Ticketlink on www.ticketlink.com.au or tel: 1300 855 835.

On Sunday 6 September, Cairns Civic Theatre will continue with its program to present **Stomp the Nard** at The Esplanade Skate Park. Cairns biggest dance battle will take place between 7pm and 10pm and feature the best B-Boyz and Girlz, Krumppez, Clownerz and hip-hop dancers of the north. This is a free event. For information, contact: www.stompthenard.com.au

This Father's Day, Festival Cairns unveils a program first; **United – Youth Concert** from 5pm in Fogarty Park. This free event on Sunday 7 September offers fabulous family style entertainment presented by Cairns Christian Ministers Network. This is an evening of dance, contemporary worship, artistic expressions and prayer for the blessing of Cairns. The entertainment program features 'Shakinah' dance crew, a live band, and 'The Dogs' – drummers of Good Shepherd. For further information, contact: John Wedrat on tel: 07 4057 6438.

The fine art of performance poetry will come to the fore in The Tanks Art Centre over two days on Tuesday 9 and Wednesday 10 September. **The Australian Poetry Slam 08**, in association with the State Library of Queensland, is set to hit Cairns again with a wordstorm of wild verbs and pulsing beats spitting from the lips of local slammers. The workshop on Tuesday will be followed by a slam night performance on Wednesday featuring Queensland slammaster and renowned performance poet, Ghostboy. Admission is Free. For information, contact: www.slq.gov.au/poetryslam

Also on Wednesday 10 September is **Cosentino's Threshold** presented by Cairns Regional Council at Cairns Civic Theatre. The brand new production is all about taking the audience to mysterious depths of their imagination as they witness the art of illusion, dance and escapes. Tickets are from \$20 per person and are available from Ticketlink www.ticketlink.com.au or tel: 1300 855 835.

Another great event from The Tanks Art Centre is **Kooky Cabaret** on Friday 12 September from 6.30pm. This adults-only entertainment dishes up the weird and wonderful with tricks that include a striptease performed while doing a one armed handstand. This event features Brisbane-based aerial performers Swing Set as well as the region's circus performers. A licensed bar will operate and food is available. Tickets from \$15 and are available from Ticketlink www.ticketlink.com.au or tel: 1300 855 835. For information, contact Northern Circus Alliance on tel: 07 4032 2428 or email: info@northerncircus.com

Just Us Theatre Ensemble's next season of plays will take place during Festival Cairns. **7 Deadly Sins** by Kathryn Ash, Melissa Cantwell, Stephen Carleton, Gail Evans, Robert Jarman, Merrilee Mills and Maryanne Sam is A JUTE Theatre, Knock-Em-Down Theatre and Darwin Theatre Company Co-Production. The season gets underway on Friday 12 September and runs until Saturday 27 September. 7 Deadly Sins is all about seven writers coming together to create a carnivalesque cabaret extravaganza exploring seven of the great, and now deadly, sins of the modern world. Wielded by four energetic performers under the direction of highly regarded director, Robert Jarman, this is a thought provoking night at the theatre. Tickets from \$15 per person available from Ticketlink www.ticketlink.com.au tel: 1300 855 835. For further information, contact JUTE Theatre on tel: 07 4050 9444 or www.jute.com.au

Kids with a penchant for performing arts will be lining up in droves at The Tanks Arts Centre for the third annual **Super Kids Circus Show** presented in conjunction with Northern Circus Alliance. Eight local youth and children's circus groups from across the

north will come together to showcase their skills in one big show set to thrill and amaze. Brisbane troupe, Swing Set Circus are the artists in residence for this event. From 3pm to 5.30pm in Tank 3. Entry from \$7 for children. Tickets from www.ticketlink.com.au or tel: 07 4031 9555. For information, contact: Lisa Capon tel: 07 4032 6604.

For further information: website www.festivalcairns.com.au or phone EventsCairns on 07 4051 0222 or email info@festivalcairns.com.au

Ends



Picture: Crowds Gather for Carnival on Collins Celebration in Collins Avenue

SPORT

If one event encapsulates Cairns at its best, it would have to be its annual spring racing carnival known affectionately as Amateurs. However, Festival Cairns organisers have taken a leaf out of Australia's sporting icons, Roy & HG Nelson's book on sporting philosophy "that too much of a good thing is never enough". In this year's official program there is a high energy, action packed combination of top flight basketball, to spectacular yachting action and even a golden oldie's rugby tournament.

If you are new to Cairns or have just emerged from a social cocoon, the **Cairns Amateurs Racing Carnival** pulls in the punters, the socialites, the one-day flutterers and the zany from far and wide. In 2008, this event marks its 50th Anniversary with a special celebration signified by the glitz and glam of GOLD. The two day racing carnival with fashions on the field events at Cannon Park race course will take place on Friday 11 and Saturday 12 September 2008. Entry is just \$25pp per day. For further information, www.cairnsamateurs.com.au or tel: 07 4041 4911.

As the first event on the board and warm-up to all the other sporting action, this year's **100 Years Australian Rugby League** event will take place on day one, Wednesday 27 August 2008. The Harvey Norman Centenary Celebration at Barlow Park between 3pm and 7pm will honour the contribution regional NSW and QLD have made to the football code of rugby league. Admission is FREE.

Next cab off the sporting rank is a biggie for basketball with **Queensland Cup Basketball Tournament** making its second appearance on the Festival Cairns official program. The three day competition between National Basketball League teams Townsville Crocs, Gold Coast Blaze and Skytrans Cairns Taipans gets going on Thursday 28 August 2008 at Cairns Basketball Stadium (Fish Tank) in Aumuller Street. Don't miss the action that marks the Taipans' 10th year in the NBL. Admission from \$5 for Children. For information, contact: Jacqui Nolan on tel: 07 4030 7555 or email: sales@taipans.com

While the competition between teams is heating up, Skytrans Cairns Taipans will present their annual **Subway Hoops Clinic** on Saturday 30 August between 4pm and 6pm at Cairns Basketball Stadium. The NBL superstars will take over 150 far northern children through their paces on centre court. This workshop is a must for all budding basketballers and is open to kids aged between 5 and 12 years. For information, contact: Jacqui Nolan on tel: 07 4030 7555.

There is definitely no rest for the wicked – the very next day, Sunday 30 August, sportspeople will converge on Cairns to take part in the city's largest multi-sports event – **Festival of Sport**. Presented by Subway, the full day program from 8am to 8.30pm features the Bright Black AV Ocean Swim, Pump 'N' Pedals Kids' Triathlon, Sea FM Sportsworld 2.5 km and 10km Fun Runs and the Coral Coast Triathlon for individuals and teams.

Festival of Sport also incorporates a Community Sports Expo with displays and demonstrations from over 20 local sporting groups as well as a program of entertainment for the whole family with a huge variety of things to do and see. This is a FREE event. For further information, contact: www.sportsfest.com.au

After a restful few weeks, the pace quickens on Saturday 13 September when around 100 competitors in pre-1986 rally cars will make a pit stop at the Cairns Showgrounds; the half way point of the 7000 km **2008 Red Centre to Gold Coast Trial**. The cars will be on show from 12.30pm to 3pm and admission is FREE. Check out the range of vehicles from rally-prepared Commodores to Datsun 240Zs, Porches and even a Russian Lada. For information, contact: EventsCairns on tel: 0740 51 0222.

On this same night, it's tip off for the **Skytrans Cairns Taipans' 2008/09 NBL season** from 7.30pm at Cairns Convention Centre. Watch them return to the court when they play against the South Dragons. For tickets, visit www.ticketsplus.com.au. For information, contact: Taipans Shop on tel: 07 4054 4511.

The very next day marks the **7th Annual Festival Cairns Cup** presented by Cairns Yacht Club. Underway from 12 noon, this exciting event features more than 50 yachts of varying sizes and colours fighting it out in the opening event of the 2008/09 season. The entire race is sailed on the inlet ensuring great viewing from the many vantage points along Cairns waterfront. For information, contact: Warner Ferguson on tel: 0408 187 497 or email: warnerferguson@aol.com

Festival Cairns 08 sporting rundown finishes on finale day, Saturday 20 September with **Reef Hotel Casino Masters Rugby Tournament**. This year marks the fifth year of the tournament which is hosted by Cairns Old Crocs and going by all reports, is destined to be the biggest to date with 12 teams nominated to participate. This includes two teams from New Zealand, one from PNG and others from the Northern Territory, NSW and QLD. This event is FREE and will take place between 9 am and 4pm at Barlow Park. For information, contact: tel: 07 4041 2529.

For further information: website www.festivalcairns.com.au or phone EventsCairns on 07 4051 0222 or email info@festivalcairns.com.au



Picture: Festival Cairns Cup on the Inlet

MEDIA INFORMATION

August 2008

FAMILY

In 2008, Festival Cairns continues to turn the saying "there's no such thing as a free lunch" on its head with an array of free and low-cost family-oriented events.

While Festival Cairns is family all the way, there are certain events that merit mention as follows:

On Saturday 30 August Cairns Regional Gallery will host a special **Festival Cairns Family Day** from 10 am to 3pm. This free event offers a full day of art and activities and an opportunity to see some fabulous art on display in Cuisine & Country, Earth Links and From Cairns to Cape exhibitions. For further information, contact: programs@cairnsregionalgallery.com.au

After popping into Cairns Regional Gallery for a spot of creativity, continue the fun across at the Pier by the Marina for the first of five **Family Fun at the Pier** events. Held between 10 am and 1pm, the other dates are Sunday 31 August, Friday 5 September, Saturday 6 September and Friday 12 September.

Catch 'The La Goons' dynamic interactive musical comedy show and when they catch up with you, Rachel La Goon will magically paint your face in a minute. Terry La Goon will have everyone up and hokey-pokeying to mad cap renditions of "If You are Happy and You Know it", "Old McDonald's Farm" and original Aussie animal songs while Danny La Goon – magician, mime and clown extraordinaire – will be on deck as The Pier's roving clown. Admission is Free.

This is the third year that **Storytime in the Library** has featured on the Festival Cairns program. Kicking off with a reading on Tuesday 2 September in Gordonvale Library, there are a total of seven events that are free of charge and are followed by hands-on fun with creative craft activities. Storytime Readings take place from 10.30am and bookings are essential. For further information, contact: Kristie Jones on tel: 07 4044 3791 or email: k.jones@cairns.qld.gov.au

When it comes to high octane, family friendly performance, **Ergon Energy's Busking Festival** has it covered – bringing beat to the streets between Thursday 4 September and finale day, Saturday 20 September. Kicking off with an Amateur competition (between 4 September and Friday 19 September) in City Place and Cairns Esplanade, the highlight is definitely the line up of international performers who will take to the streets on Thursday 18, Friday 19 and Saturday 20 September. For information, contact: www.cairnesplanade.com.au or www.festivalcairns.com.au for times.

Cairns Regional Council presents **Possum Magic – The Musical Live on Stage** for a dose of true family entertainment. A total of four performances will be held at Cairns Civic Theatre on Saturday 6 and Monday 8 September. This musical is based on Mem Fox's classic picture book that has been stylishly embellished into a rollicking Australian musical. This is a tender tale of a possum, Hush, and her journey across Australia. The musical features larger than life-size puppets, original music and a cast of multi-talented performers. Tickets are priced from \$10 and are available from Ticketlink on tel: 1300 855 835 or www.ticketlink.com.au

On Sunday 7 September it is Father's Day and if you live in Cairns, it also means, its carnival time – or **Carnival on Collins** to be precise. From 9am to 3pm, the leafy and lush Collins Avenue, Flecker Botanic Gardens and Tanks Art Centre precinct is transformed into a bonanza of activities and entertainment with over 100 market stalls spanning plants, lifestyle, fashion, food, arts and crafts and general interest. There'll also be three stages of entertainment with over 20 performances including special guests, Women in Docs. A free children's wonderland will be there for the little ones as well as wandering minstrels and much more. This is a free event.

Also on Father's Day is a program first – **United – Youth Concert** from 5pm in Fogarty Park. This free event offers fabulous family style entertainment presented by Cairns Christian Ministers Network. This is an evening of dance, contemporary worship, artistic expressions and prayer for the blessing of Cairns. The entertainment program features 'Shakinah' dance crew, a live band, and 'The Dogs' – drummers of Good Shepherd. For further information, contact: John Wedrat on tel: 07 4057 6438.

For a great family night out, don't miss **Birch Carroll and Coyle's Pictures in the Park** from Thursday 11 to Saturday 13 September 2008. Grab your family, a picnic basket and all the necessary comforts to relax on the grass from 6pm in readiness for pre-movie entertainment and giveaways. On the final night, The Tanks Art Centre will present The Flicks prior to the feature film. This is a showcase of exciting new works from young and emerging film makers from the Cairns region. This is a free event. For a full movie list, visit www.festivalcairns.com.au

For early Sunday morning risers, **Walk for Women 2008** is a great family outing on the Esplanade that will take place on Sunday 14 September between 8am and 10am. Presented by Mercy Ministries, this event carries a \$10 admission that will raise money and awareness in the community for the young girls of Cairns. For information, contact: Gail Rogers tel: 0412 906 241.

The Esplanade really is the place to take the family during Festival Cairns. On Sunday 14 September, **BDO Kendalls will present Swing by the Lagoon** from 3pm to 5.30pm. This free event featuring The Military Band of the First Battalion Royal Australian Regiment (1RAR) who are returning to Cairns to dazzle audiences with their spectacular musical display.

And in just their second ever public appearance, The Cairns Youth Stage Band will be accompanied by the Hotshots Big Band – one of the few regularly performing big bands in Australia. The musical program will cross all genres from jazz to big band to modern pop, rock and vocal numbers. For information, contact: www.festivalcairns.com.au

At the same time, across town, kids will be lining up in droves at The Tanks Arts Centre for the third annual **Super Kids Circus Show** presented in conjunction with Northern Circus Alliance. Eight local youth and children's circus groups from across the north will come together to showcase their skills in one big show set to thrill and amaze. Brisbane troupe, Swing Set Circus are the artists in residence for this event. From 3pm to 5.30pm in Tank 3. Entry from \$7 for children. Tickets from www.ticketlink.com.au or tel: 07 4031 9555. For information, contact: Lisa Capon tel: 07 4032 6604.

And then it is the finale – an all day family entertainment extravaganza on Cairns Esplanade and Fogarty Park for 12 hours between 10.30am and 10.30pm. The day starts early with **Tropical Wave Festival** in Fogarty Park. Presented by Cairns and Regional Multi-

cultural Association (CARMA), this free event is a jewel in the Festival Cairns crown spanning a deliciously global blend of food stalls, art and craft stalls, music, dance, story telling, demonstrations and more. For further information, contact: Olive Ta Davis on tel: 0410 469 272.

From 1pm through to 4pm, the Esplanade becomes duck central with a series of **Rotary Duck Events** from Harcourts Crikey-Catch-A-Croc to Myer Fashions on the Duck Field and the Myer Fashion Parade to the main event which is the Calanna Rotary Duck Race. Getting underway from 4pm, catch this rare sight of 10,000 rubber ducks being dropped into the lagoon for the race of their life. All money raised to benefit Harald's House. For information, contact: Sally Dixon tel: 07 4033 0254.

At 6pm the time has come for the community of Cairns to line the Esplanade for the city's 41st annual procession, **RACQ Insurance Parade of Lights**. This event is a firm family favourite that attracts spectators in the vicinity of 20,000 to cheer on the colourful floats showcasing their organization, business or school while competing for one of three great prizes up for grabs. For information, contact: tel: 07 4051 0222.

At last, but in no way least is **Cairns Ports Explosion of Lights** at 8pm. The Cairns skyline will be set alight once again and is the perfect way to end a wonderful family day – with an Esplanade view of the dazzling exhibition. For information, contact: tel: 07 4051 0222.

To find out more about Festival Cairns 2007, people can check out each and every event in detail on the website or grab a copy of the official Festival Cairns Guide.

For further information: website www.festivalcairns.com.au or phone EventsCairns on 07 4051 0222 or email info@festivalcairns.com.au

Ends



FOOD & WINE

And then there were two. In 2008 Festival Cairns expands its food and wine focused events that is apt considering this year's objective for the local community to 'love Cairns, love the environment'.

While working closely with Department Regional Development Trade and Industry, the two key food events on the program, Food, Wine and All That Jazz and Harbourlights Wine & Dine Lunch, will celebrate the region's tropical produce and bounty of fresh, seasonal ingredients.

On Saturday 6 September between 4pm and 10pm, Events NQ will once again stage what has quickly become, one of Festival Cairns' most popular and iconic events – **Food, Wine and all that Jazz.**

Food, Wine and All That Jazz captures the true spirit of the tropical north in an enjoyable afternoon and evening of food, wine and song. This event is the perfect opportunity to sit back, relax and feast on delicious food showcasing the region's best restaurants and tropical produce – along with wines to match and first-class entertainment – performed live thanks to media partner, 4CA FM.

New in 2008 is the waterfront location on the Esplanade. Moving north to a prime spot adjacent the Esplanade Skate Park, this event is a rare and exclusive opportunity to get out in the great outdoors during spring.

Entry is just \$15 per person. Tickets that can be redeemed from one of the 12 presenting food and wine stalls are available for purchase inside the event enclosure. Corporate tables of eight and general admission can also be pre-purchased.

For bookings, contact Events NQ on tel: 4053 4577 or visit the website: www.foodandwinenq.com.au

This year on Friday 19 September, Sebel Harbourlights will host an inaugural event showcasing the city's newest and most exciting restaurant strip on the waterfront overlooking Trinity Inlet.

Harbourlights Wine and Dine Lunch is a newcomer to the official program of Festival Cairns 2008 and one that is destined to set the pace when it comes to lunch time wining and dining. Incorporating a three course lunch by Olanos, Dundees on the Waterfront and Café Lumiere restaurants, guests can expect to feast on the region's bounty of tropical foods with wines to match by Red + White and The Wine Company.

Speaking on behalf of fellow restaurateurs, the manager of Dundees on the Waterfront, Tina Wort said this event would be one to remember. Not only is it an opportunity to relax with friends in a beautiful location, it is the chance to celebrate tropical dining and entertainment by local musician, Simon Harris and his band, Front Ear.

"The boardwalk in front of our restaurants will be set in a festive line of tables – each with a small gap in between. This allows people to book an entire table to themselves. After

a welcome glass of champagne, guests will be invited to sit by our emcee, Laura Pike, before commencing the lunch time menu of an entrée by Olanos, main dish by Dundees on the Waterfront and delicious dessert platter by Café Lumiere," she said.

Lucky Door Prizes and the chance to win a sleepover dining package at Sebel Harbourside will be up for grabs to win throughout the afternoon.

Bookings are now being taken. To secure a place – or indeed, an entire table of 10, at this indulgent afternoon of fine fare, contact Tina Wort at Dundees on the Waterfront on email: manager@dundees.com.au or tel: 4051 0399.

Tickets are \$80 per person or \$800 for a table of 10. Tickets include live entertainment, champagne on arrival, entrée, main and dessert as well as a glass of wine matched to each course.

For further information: website www.festivalcairns.com.au or phone EventsCairns on 07 4051 0222 or email info@festivalcairns.com.au

Ends

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