



**Here it is... the *End of Year*
'Amaroo Downunder'**

If you've been wondering about Amaroo since the dazzling 'Amaroo 2007' event, wonder no longer.

If you imagined that mowing and tent de-construction is all that's happening down under, imagine all over again.

Here's a gander at a few things that have been going off since September.

All the best for a clarity and joy filled 2008!



'AMAROO 2007' HUMAN RESOURCES

Behind the Scenes Support

This article is dedicated to all those people who come to enjoy an event at Amaroo, but also come along as invaluable volunteers.

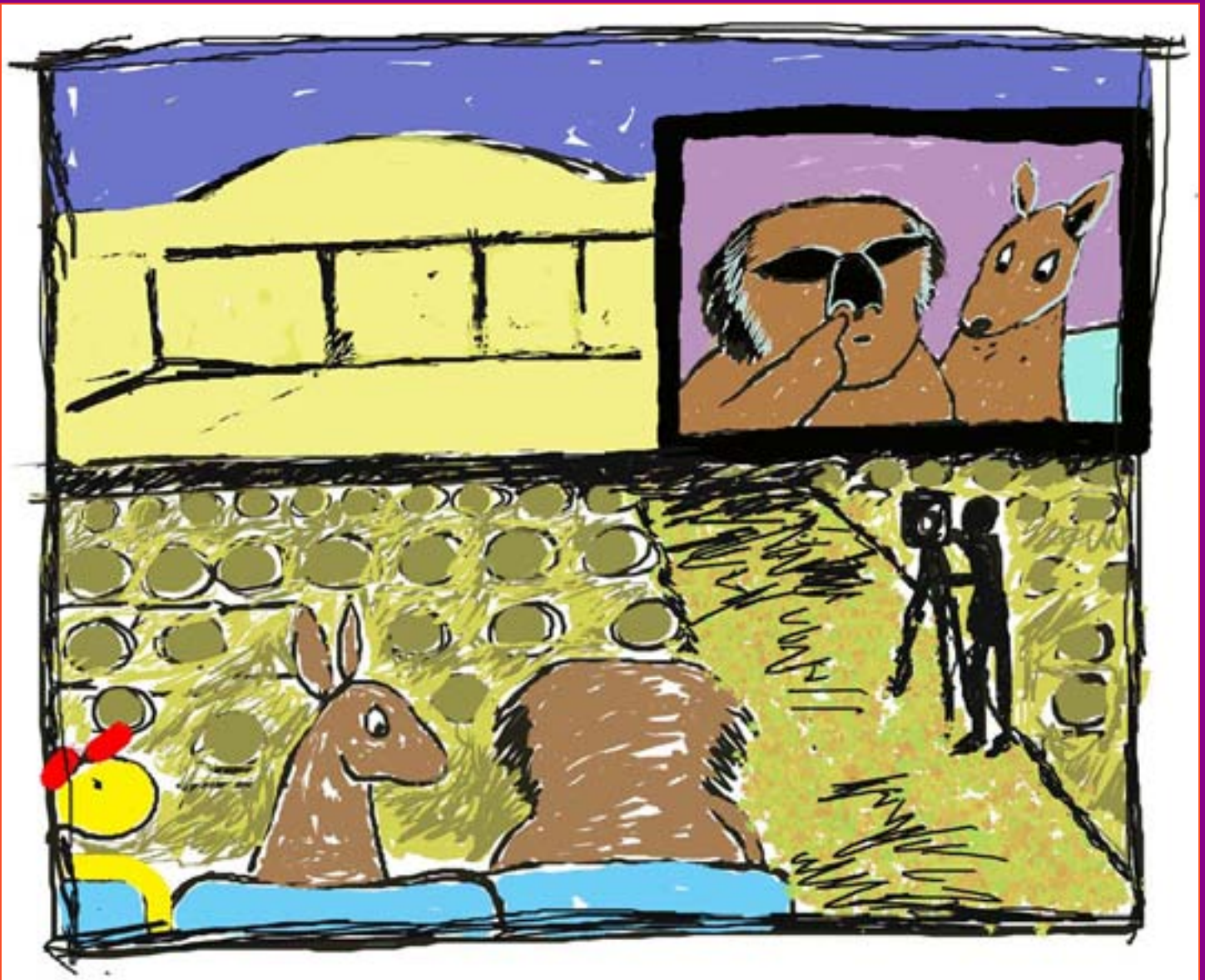
An event at Amaroo has the remarkable potential of bringing together effective teams of people, comprising of diverse and vibrant individuals from around the globe; volunteers, who are ready and keen to help with the multitude of tasks required to set up an event of this magnitude, dedicated to making your Amaroo experience as smooth and delightful as possible. And hooray! The magic happened again in 2007!

In the lead up to the event, the Amaroo HR team is kept busy ensuring the volunteers are warmly welcomed onsite and are made aware of the inherent risks of working in this beautiful yet wild natural environment.

As many volunteers arrive from cities, where spiders in your Stetson, ants in your pants or snakes in the grass (apart from those found on Wall St) are somewhat unfamiliar, this localised information is fundamental toward ensuring a safe and sound stay!

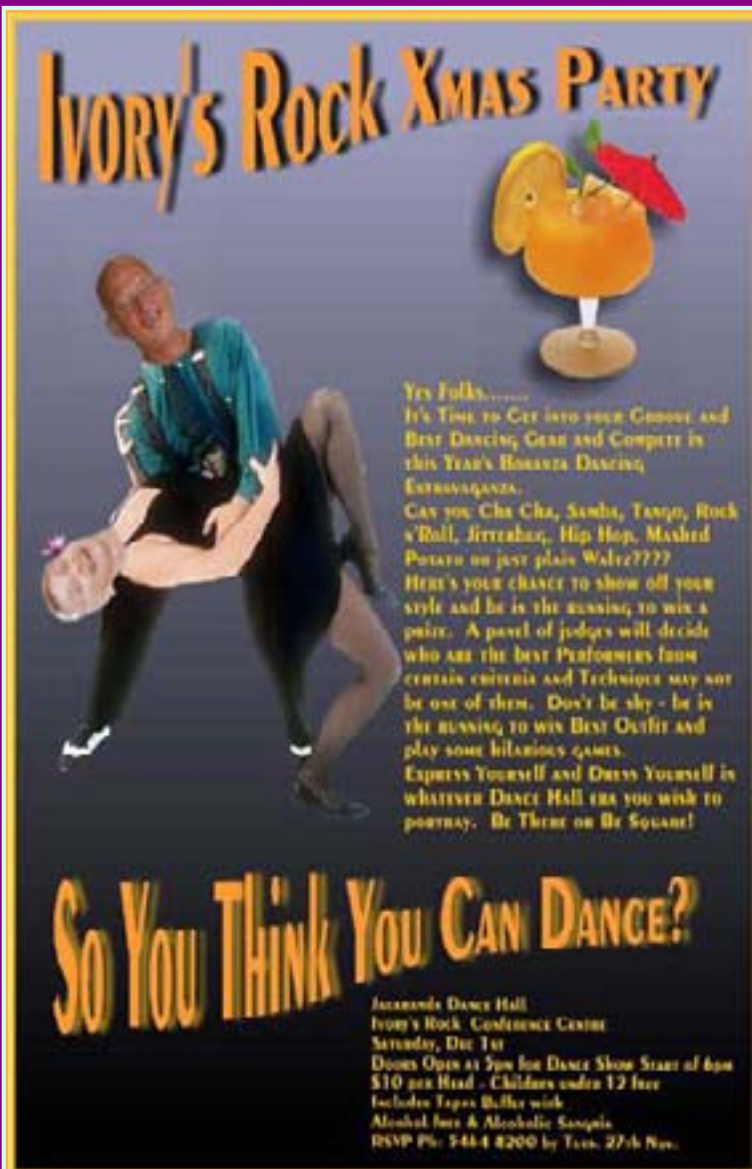
The succinct briefing all volunteers undertake before starting work at Amaroo includes a DVD, which highlights and provides advice for various health & safety hazards including heat exhaustion, dehydration, sunburn and those snakes. A second DVD conveys information about IRCC's equal opportunity policies and the high level of courteous and respectful communication that is expected. The HR team also gathers other important volunteer information, like who to contact in the event of a medical emergency.

On behalf of the Amaroo HR team and IRCC management – here's a big **THANK YOU** to everyone who participated for and at, 'Amaroo 2007'!



This one goes out to the 'Amaroo 2007' Production team, who strived so hard.





Once again the fabulous 'Amaroo End Of Year Party Team' outshone themselves and put on an Xmas Party to rival all Xmas Parties; ***"So You Think You Can Dance!"***

As guests nibbled on Tapas' and finger food and sipped delicious sangria, Andy H the MC, sporting a Mick Jagger mask, leapt into the room to the strident melody of *"Jumpin' Jack Flash"*. He skilfully fused the entire evenings show together with his witty commentary and his audience cues for applause, laughter and booing.

With each new dance track, entertainers rapidly dressing in an array of costumes (the likely envy of other artistes like Posh & Paris), performed incredible dance routines with outstanding talent.

"Twist & Shout" launched the dance competition, with an overwhelmingly enthusiastic response from the 'not getting any younger' partygoers who then continued to twist and shout the night away to the sounds and moves of rock n' roll, Latin, Spanish, belly dancing, cancan, surfin' and the Irish jig (to name just a few!)

Other highlights included boot scooting to *"Achy Breaky Heart"* with Jenny K, Jill H and Neill B doin' it in unison. Eveline D and Frank (in drag) also delighted everyone with a playful pole dance!

Her Royal Majesty graced the evening with her presence to bestow the excellent prizes for dancing distinctions. She was not in her usual fine regalia but in her just-off-the-moors-grouse-hunting garb with headscarf, sensible skirt and sagacious shoes.

Special thanks must go to Christine S who not only created the party concept and schedule, but also worked rigorously preparing all the wonderful cuisine.

Thank you also to everyone who joined in with hilarity and enthusiasm, helping make this an event to remember!

4 a beautiful place



A SPECIAL EBAY ACCOUNT HAS BEEN OPENED AS AN **AUSTALIAN** FUNDRAISING INITIATIVE FOR AMAROO. ANYONE INTERESTED CAN ACCESS THE SITE BY GOING TO: www.eBay.com.au

- On the top of the eBay opening page, click 'advanced search'
- In the left hand column, click on 'find a member'
- Type in the username:
4abeautifulplace

If you would like to support this project, you can donate suitable items by contacting Eveline Dannenburg.

Tel: 07 3389 7087

Or send an email to abeautifulplace@live.com.au

Alternatively, by bidding and/or purchasing an item on this site, you are making a direct contribution to Amaroo.

In the future you can find out what has been sold over the past month, by clicking on the 'completed items' box on the left hand side of our selling page.

You can also mark **4abeautifulplace** as 'your favorite seller'. This way you will always be updated automatically when new items are listed.

Many thanks to everybody who is already supporting this project and we look forward to many more future supporters.

Warm Regards,

Eveline

Ebay administrator for Amaroo

Farm Begins To Yield

The Farm teams efforts have been relentless since September, and the reward... \$100 worth of freshly picked fruit and veggies sold at the last working bee and the 1.2 acre pasture (now christened the 'Big Patch') ready for its first planting! The crew feel great, having turned that full circle, now beginning to earn a small income that will grow and grow and one day help to support Amaroo.

So what have the crew been up to since September?

Check this out:

- Built a bio dynamic compost heap behind the caretakers house, potted some red paw-paw seedlings, mulched the citrus orchard, pulled out cottonweed
- First service of 'china' the tractor, cleaned out the chook shed
- Collected 3 cubic metres of old dry dung from cow paddocks
- Dry cow dung put through a chipper to enrich the soil at the 'small patch'
- Built a cover for the pump to drive water up the hill from the shed tanks (this will then be gravity fed back, to provide pressure for watering)
- Re-plumbed the down pipes to the water tanks (this has worked a treat with rainwater gurgling into the second tank, having already filled the other one to the brim with the recent fab rains)
- Cleared Camp A building gutters to ensure maximum runoff to tanks
- Checked drip irrigation system on the olive grove
- Ploughed the 'Big Patch' six times, spread crusher dust and chook manure, raised the green manure crop and ploughed that back in
- Dug hands into the 'Big Patch' about 10 inches - the result of months of preparation!
- Mowed some neat furrows along and across the 'Big Patch', breaking up the soil as much as possible
- Started building a tractor shed come rest area next to the 'Big Patch'
- Joined in with the fun at the 'Amaroo End Of Year Party'
- Cleared one of the bays in the sheds behind the caretaker's garden to provide a shade/rest area and installed a donated fridge and kettle
- Dug postholes to put another shelter up at the 'Big Patch' (this is where they will take a break from picking their prolific crops of biodynamic vegetables)

If you're interested in a visit, see what's been done, buy some vibrant veggies... the crew are planning a picnic afternoon in mid January. They will provide more details nearer the time.

Farm Photo Gallery on next page...



Adding 2 AD

"So glad you gave us lasses more WC's than the men. Please subscribe me to AD. It's great. Thanks, PB"

"I love your newsletter!! One more thing to make me wish I could be there again this year. Kathryn"

"Hi guys, wasn't the 2007 event wonderful? I just love how M keeps everything moving – it's both exciting and inspiring and I feel so lucky. Thanks very much, Pauline" (Australia)

"Hello. I want to thank you all, for the wonderful effort you put into 'Amaroo 2007'. See you at 'Amaroo 2008' I hope. Andrea" (Spain)

"Hi all at AD. Keep up the great work; it's always cool to hear what's going on at Amaroo, my favourite place! Cheers Vicky" (NZ)



"I really enjoy the content, the colour and the spirit contained in the newsletter. Keep up the good work. Thanks, Ferriss" (Ottawa, Canada)

"Thank you so much for this awesome newsletter where we can be updated and inspired daily! With gratitude, *Suneeta & Kiran*"

"Thanks a lot – AD is very enjoyable and interesting to read. Jacque"

"Thank you for the awesome news! I wish I were there to participate in the projects. Susan" (UK)

"I really enjoyed the newsletter you sent me, thank you. Regards, Judy"

"Great newsletter! Luv Jack" (Southampton, UK)

"I'd like to subscribe to AD. Good job mate. Rohn" (Devonshire, UK)

"AD's fabulous! Great layout. Great information - very clear and precise. Collette" (Ipswich, Australia)

"Thank you so much for these wonderful newsletters. Amy" (Vancouver, Canada)



The **Amaroo** website has just been updated with info on:

- Volunteer vacancies
- The '\$5 a Week Club'
- 2008 Calendars

Check out the **Participation** and **Sales** pages, plus the brand new **Gallery** page with images from 'Amaroo 2007' at:

www.amaroo.org

You have been mailed the link to 'Amaroo Downunder' (AD) because you have attended and/or registered to attend an international event at Amaroo.

If you do not wish to receive these mailings or need to advise us of a change of email address, please send "unsubscribe" or your new address by return email.

If you would like to **subscribe** to AD emails, please send your email address, your full name and mail address (and smart card number if possible) to:

ad@amaroo.org

Add 2 AD

Got any feedback, questions, articles, artwork or photography relating to Amaroo you would like to submit for potential inclusion in AD? Then please write to the editor at:

ad@amaroo.org

This version of 'Amaroo Downunder' is primarily for web-based viewing.

A print friendlier version is also available from:

<http://www.amaroo.org/newsletter.html>

Or just click on the new **Newsletter** tab at www.amaroo.org