



Korowal School

77 Scott Avenue Leura NSW 2780

Phone: 4757 2253 Fax: 4757 2037 E mail: info@korowal.nsw.edu.au

We're on the web! www.korowal.nsw.edu.au

FORTNIGHTLY NEWSLETTER

21 October, 2008 - Volume 31 - Issue 11

Dates to remember

23-24/10/08	HS students away - staff development days
10/11/2008	School Cert. English & Science Exams
11/11/2008	School Cert. Maths & History Exams
12/11/2008	School Cert. Computer Studies Exam
21/11/2008	Year 2 Sleepover
23/11/2008	School of Arts Fundraiser
24/11/2008	Year 5 Dinner
24-26/11/08	Evening performances HS Drama
03-05/12/08	Year 8 Camp
05/12/2008	Last day of term 4
06/12/2008	Year 6 Farewell
10-12/12/2008	Moving
13/12/2008	Leaving Leura Ceremony
27/01/2009	Pathways students return
30/01/2009	Year 6 return
31/01/2009	Picnic/see the new school
02/02/2009	Yrs 1-5 & 7-10 return
09/02/2009	Kindy begins

RELOCATION NEWS

The new school is taking shape in a very exciting fashion! After so many months of poring over plans, obtaining Council approvals, raising money and getting quotes, it is finally "all happening". We can now see clearly what the new classrooms, library, art, music and computer rooms will look like.

Thanks

Once again, our heartfelt thanks to our builder Jurjen Teenrstra.

Thanks also to...Michael Hennessey (metalwork), Deb Hurley (garden group co-ordination) Mark Thomas (who spent his holidays painting the new primary school), Paula and Greg (who have spent weeks working on the painting plan), Leanne Kent and Debra Keenahan (who have phoned almost every family to discuss transport needs for next year), the volunteers who painted with Mark during the holidays, and everyone who has turned up to help at our working bees.

"The Paint Place" at Bullaburra has given us a great deal on the paints we will need for the new school and have given us invaluable advice about how to approach the task. We hope that you will reward them by buying your paint there.

Working Bees

Every Sunday from 10am – 3 pm until the end of November: painting, cleaning, rubbish removal, mowing, whipper-snipping. Bring appropriate gear, or just turn up. Sign on when you arrive.

There will be no working bee on Nov 23rd, the day of music fundraiser.

Can you help with.....

Mowing, painting, cleaning, rubbish removal? If our Sunday working bees are not convenient for you and you would like to organise another time, contact Annie on acarment@bigpond.net.au or 03431352022.

Building a bridge across the stream/culvert in the middle of the playground?

We are looking for ideas, materials and skills for a 2 meter bridge.

Building shelves? Building seriously strong clothes racks for our costume department? Dismantling shelves etc from Leura and reassembling them at Hazelbrook?

FUNDRAISING

1) "On The Groove" music fundraiser Sunday Nov 23rd

Planning is well underway. (See the ad in this newsletter).

The Field, Rachel Hannan's Little Big Band and *Snaketown Rattlers* have volunteered their time and talents for the event – thank you to them all.

Karen Reid is co-ordinating the organisation with the assistance of her events management students from the Blue Mountains Hotel School. Trish Fitzgerald is co-ordinating the food.

The event will double as the launch for our *Korowal Kompilation* CD and triple as an end of year party – we deserve one!

Tickets are \$25 per family and \$5 for individuals. They will be on sale very soon at the school office and at Megalong Books. It will help our catering plans if tickets are purchased as early as possible.

CAN YOU HELP? We need volunteers to help set up the venue from 12 midday, clean up afterwards from 9 pm, provide vegetarian finger food, serve food from 5 to 9 pm, and "person" the door. If you can help, contact Annie on acarment@bigpond.net.au or 0431352022.

2) Korowal Kompilation CD

Our compilation CD – entitled *On The Move* – will be ready for distribution in mid November, in time for the Christmas rush.

CAN YOU HELP TO DISTRIBUTE THE CD?

We plan to stock it at bookshops, café's, music shops etc in the Mountains before Christmas. If you can help with distribution, or have distribution ideas, contact Annie on acarment@bigpond.net.au or 0431352022

3) Sharing the Load

If you pledged a donation to our "Sharing the Load" appeal and have not yet completed the donation, please contact Narelle who can discuss options with you.

If you did not donate, or would like to increase the amount, please do so!! The costs faced by the school during the next few months are exceptional.

If you have forwarded your donation, thank you very much. The \$200,000 we raised is an absolutely essential component of our finance for the necessary building work.

4) e-bay

recycle4korowal eBay fundraiser continues to turn your unwanted household stuff into cash for our new school. We've sold everything from a garden shed and a rabbit hutch to rugby memorabilia and collector's Coke cans. Thank you so much to those who have contributed items for sale.

Please keep the items coming – the bigger the better. In the last two months the items we've had for listing have been smaller in value, so we've sold 52 items and grossed \$844. Similar time, effort and listing fees are required to sell a \$2.00 book as a \$100 bookshelf and buyers happily pick up larger items (which we don't have to package and post). Good quality, brand label clothes and kids toys sell well, except stuffed toys, which we've found we we just can't shift unless they talk, dance or giggle. And check out the site – Korowal bidders are very welcome too!

Leanne and Nigel 47512774

Green Power Fundraiser

Switching your electricity to Greenpower is one of the easiest ways to reduce your family's carbon emissions.

We have found an energy company, Jackgreen Energy, that will give our school \$35 when you switch to Jackgreen GreenPower and mention the school's name. Switching to use the 10% GreenPower package will cost you no more than you pay now, as you will continue to pay the regulated tariff for standard electricity in our area. You can also get a 5% reduction on your bill when you pay on time.

It's simple, quick and easy to do AND it will help your environment and your child's future whilst raising money for our new school, too!

As well as the 10% GreenPower package, Jackgreen has other levels of GreenPower available to match your budget, right up to switching to 100% GreenPower and if 100 of us switch to 100% GreenPower, we as a community will be helping to abate around 700 tonnes* of greenhouse gas a year by choosing to support renewable energy.

Choice Magazine's recent study found Jackgreen Energy to be the cheapest provider of 100% GreenPower and endorsed by Planet Ark, Jackgreen Energy is the only licensed retailer in Australia to include government accredited GreenPower in every product.

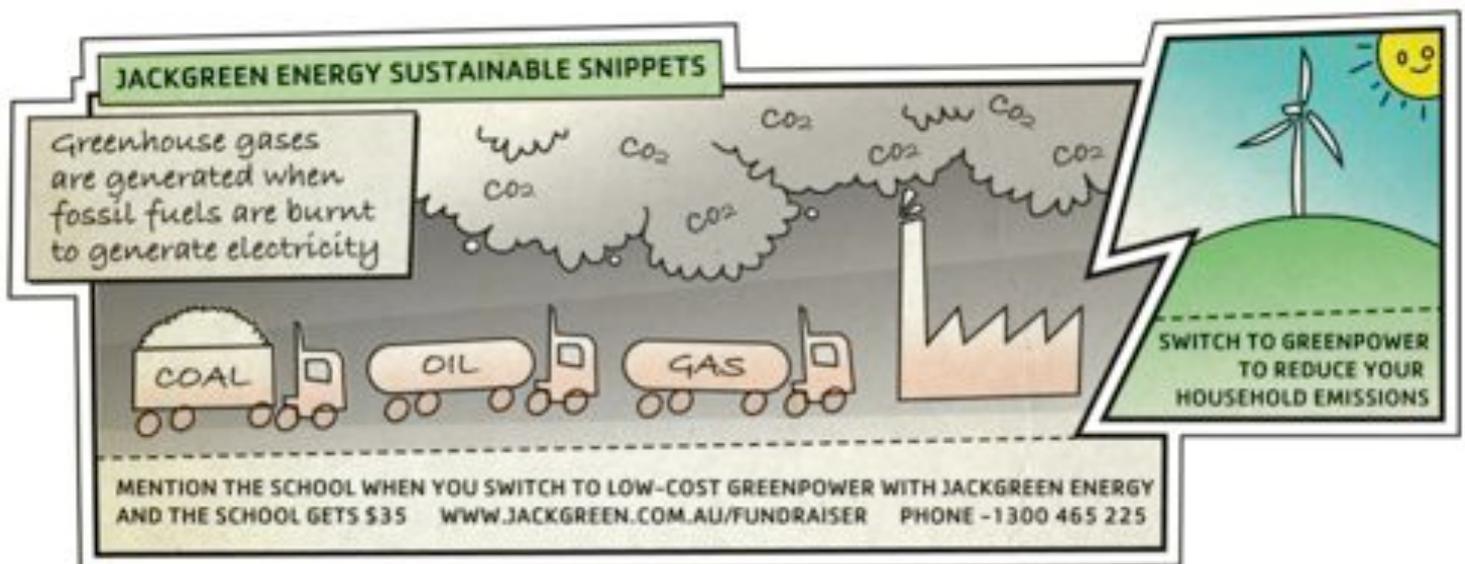
We thought this would be a great way to raise money for the school and for you as parents to join in with your child's efforts in the school to reduce the effects of climate change.

Simply call 1300 46 5225 or go to <http://www.jackgreen.com.au> and make the switch to GreenPower today, remember it will cost you no more than you pay now and remember to mention the school.

This great opportunity is available to anyone you know, just ensure they mention the school when they too make the switch :-)

Come on – take the 5 minutes, make the call and make a difference.....

Joachim Herrmann
High School and IT Coordinator



General News

From the Library

Year 10 participated in the compulsory HSC unit 'All My Own Work' today with a very high level of success. This is a Board of Studies unit in five modules which deals with academic integrity and avoidance of plagiarism. What a great group; they just got on with it.

We have some wonderful new acquisitions (donations, book club, etc) and I'll just mention Wizard of Rondo (Rodda sequel) and Brisingr to gloat.

Thanks to everyone who brought overdue books back this week - follow up notices (\$\$) will go out soon.

It will be necessary to end all borrowing from the Library (temporarily of course!) on 7 November, and books borrowed in that week will only be out for 7 days. In other words, all books need to be back in by 14 November, so packing can begin. After that date, there won't be Library classes. Books will ALWAYS be welcomed back but it's easy to see that keeping them where they belong in 'the pack-up' will make things saner at the other end.

I understand our new Library is already looking good, so I'm looking forward to going in and finding places for everything!

If anyone else is able to assist with the move in this area by packing or unpacking etc., feel free to contact me or leave your name with the Office staff.

Thanks again

Carole

Primary Chess

Sophie, Jordan, Jessica, Tomas, Suri and Rommenie participated in the Primary Schools One Day Chess Tournament held at Grammar on the 23rd of September. It was a huge day with 24 3-person teams from 6 schools competing. Everyone played 7 chess matches. That requires a great deal of thinking and concentration. Korowal played excellently. Everyone won at least one match and there were many draws. All players played well and were very good sports. Korowal A ended up 5th losing out to qualifying for the state tournament by half a point. It was a great day and I thank all the parents for all their help and the players for their hard work.

Also this last term, we held a chess tournament open to anyone from Primary. Jordan Ryan defeated Jessica Schweinsberg in a hard fought final. It is nice to see the students participating in the matches. Chess is a great game for thinking ahead, thinking of alternatives, recognising patterns, concentrating, learning to be a gracious winner or loser and just for having fun.

There are no more formal competitions this year, but students are welcome to come to the library on Mondays lunchtime for a game with whoever else shows up. And of course chess will continue at Hazelbrook next year!

Kathi

Swimming Centre Raffle Results

Congratulations to the following members of our community who won prizes in our Swimming Pool Raffle:

1st Prize: Season pass to any outdoor pool went to Aloka Welch.

2nd Prize: 10 Visit Pass to Katoomba or Springwood pool or leisure Centre went to Caragh Rothwell.

3rd Prize: 5 Family passes to Blue Mountains Pools went to Annie Carment.

Special thanks to our School office staff for their support with this raffle...

Trish Fitzgerald



At the end of last term we were treated to a wonderful night of song and celebration by the busking group Spiral. Sophia and Annie performed an amazing array of songs, sung in beautiful harmony for our enjoyment. The parents and children had a picnic dinner on the courtyard lawn to the sounds of this fabulous duo. Thank you to Sophia and Annie for providing this concert for us. All donations from the night have gone into the building fund for our new school.

POLICY REMINDERS- In summary

Every now and then we remind the students of the need for us to abide by our procedures which are in place for their safety. We are presently focussing on shoes, hats and music players. So briefly:

SHOES: thongs, sandals, open- toed shoes or shoes that inhibit movement are potentially dangerous in Science labs, Art rooms and our bush land playground. Closed toed shoes only are to be worn, even in Summer.

HATS: Broad brimmed hats are in, caps are out. All students need a hat as basic equipment. Classes are sometimes held outside.

SWITCH-OFF - Use of Ipods and MP3 Players

In summary, *they are not to be used at school by any students in Years K-9. In Years 10-12 they may be used with the teachers' permission. They are not to be used on sports buses or within the grounds at all.* If they are seen, the teacher will take the player and hand it to the class teacher to return at the end of the day. If use is repeated, the parents will be asked to come to the office to pick it up, or write a letter requesting it's return.

The full written policies can be seen on the Korowal website.

Many new laptops?

Korowal recently applied for the federal government's National Secondary Computer Fund, Round Two. The focus of Round Two is on moving all secondary schools with Year 9 to 12 students, to a target 'computer to student ratio', of 1:2.

You probably read in the paper how many computers other schools in the Mountains were given in Round One, while we did not get any for Korowal. The reason was simply that our computer/student ratio was higher than in most other schools.

With this new round of funding, we hope to receive 26 laptops, to extend our current range. We are getting tremendous use out of the laptops because of their flexibility.

As part of the move to our new school in Hazelbrook, we are planning a major network upgrade to allow for the extra network traffic.

I am excited!

Joachim

Primary School News



3,4,5 Camp

Towards the end of last term, the 3,4,5 students enjoyed a wonderful three day camp to a farm near Picton. We were busily engaged in a range of outdoor activities, and we also took this opportunity for an evening 'sharing concert'.



Students wrote recounts into their Main Lesson books as we (wearily!) dreamed back to our time away. Here are some of the things students said and wrote about camp:

Caragh: We arrived a camp at 11 o'clockish. All the year five girls stayed in the same room.

Violet: We stayed in Cheddington Lodge (Farm House).

Caragh: My camp buddy was Anna. I slept on the top bunk of our bed and she slept on the bottom bunk. there was a window in our room that faced the front of the lodge we were staying in, so we could see what was going on outside. We had morning tea and shared some of the food people had cooked and brought to camp to share. The first activity we did was watch farmer Fred shear a sheep. The sheep squirmed a bit.

Lindsay: After lunch we went on a walk around the farm and watched a demonstration of natural horsemanship.

Caragh: We learnt that the farm used to be a place where people could learn to be farmers. That night we had a concert, which included harp by Charlotte, Guitar by lachie, Danand Indi, singing by Lilian, Dancing by Bianca, speech by Rommenie, Magic by Callum, Talisenand HEAPS more by our talented bunch. Lots of people played the piano at dinner: Blaise, Dan Lillian, Rommenie.....

Lindsay: On the second day we ate pancakes with icing sugar and syrup for breakfast.

Adam: After, we went to make damper and billy tea. We went on a tractor ride back for morning tea.

Violet: We went to the animal nursery. That was the best part! There was a whole room of bunnies. I was in heaven! I held a lamb,(Charlotte: Her name was "Lambchop!"), and there were two gianormous pigs. I've never seen some kind of animal that big up close.

Adam: I got to milk a cow. It was so much fun! After lunch we did boomerang throwing and whip-cracking. After we fed the cows we did archery.(Ruben got a bull's eye and won a Mars Bar!).

Charlotte: After that we went we went to the bush dance, which was so much fun. The next morning we went for an early morning walk. After breakfast we went canoeing and did the rope course.

Indi: This was set up to be about team work. if you didn't do it all together, the activity wouldn't work.

Blaise: We slept in bunk! The camp was fun!



High School News

Our farewell assembly for graduating Year 12 students is always a significant event. On the last day of term 3 the whole school celebrated the time shared and achievements of all our leaving students. We also acknowledged the parents for the time and relationships we have shared over the past, in some cases, 13 years.

We extend our support and well wishes to all the students in Years 11 and 12 sitting their HSC exams over the next three weeks. The first exam, English, was held last Friday.

We welcome Grace Harvey (Yr 9), Christian Peralta, and Jacob Allen (Yr 7) as well as Megan Keller and Emily Parkinson, (Yr 10) and their families. They will and be joined by three more students for the start of the new Pathways cycle in week three. All Year 12 students return to school on Monday 27th unless they have an exam the following day, or have made other arrangements with Steve.

STAFF DEVELOPMENT DAYS for HIGH SCHOOL

This *Thursday 23rd and Friday 24th* are pupil free days as the staff prepare for the beginning of our academic year on Monday 27th October.

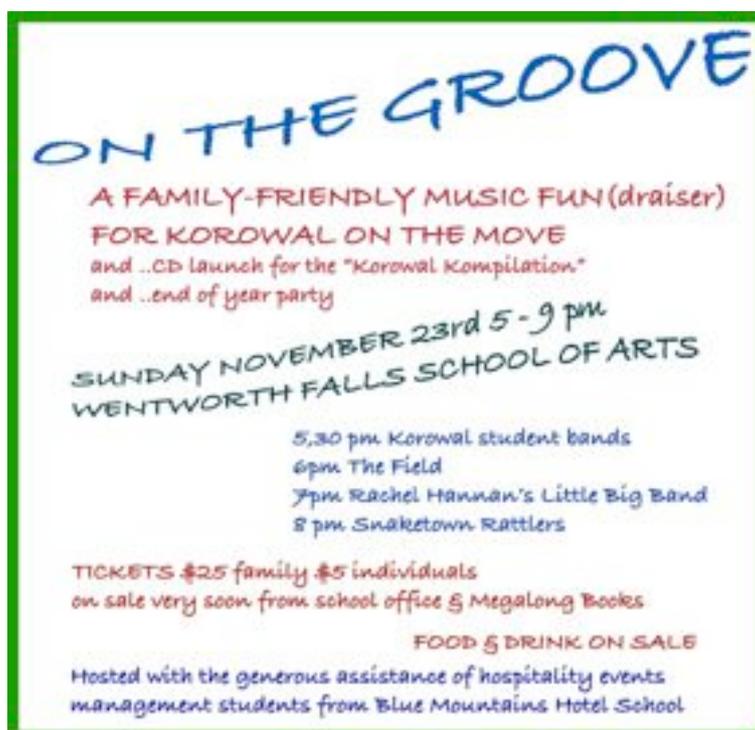
TEXTBOOKS and EQUIPMENT

All classes in the high school will go up on Monday 27th and book lists and equipment lists for the each Year Group have been sent home. If you have not received one please contact the school office. New books may be ordered from Megalong Books in Leura. Second hand books can be arranged through the school newsletter. Simply give the office your details and requests and a listing for exchange or sale will be published. Parents looking to buy or sell can then phone each other. We encourage the students to re-cycle whenever possible. Some texts are needed for a two year cycle so please check with your subject teacher if unsure. We would also welcome donations of texts for use at the school's discretion. These donated texts will not be resold.

MOVING

We look forward to working with you. It is getting very exciting and this short term will fly. Many of the High School staff are starting to sort, toss and pack, and will be phoning volunteers on the help lists soon. If you are available to help us pack up our departments we thank you in anticipation.

Barb



ON THE GROOVE
A FAMILY-FRIENDLY MUSIC FUN (draiser)
FOR KOROWAL ON THE MOVE
and ..CD launch for the "Korowal Kompilation"
and ..end of year party

SUNDAY NOVEMBER 23rd 5-9 pm
WENTWORTH FALLS SCHOOL OF ARTS

5.30 pm Korowal student bands
6pm The Field
7pm Rachel Hannan's Little Big Band
8 pm Snaketown Rattlers

TICKETS \$25 family \$5 individuals
on sale very soon from school office & Megalong Books

FOOD & DRINK ON SALE

Hosted with the generous assistance of hospitality events
management students from Blue Mountains Hotel School

Korowal Konnections

This section promotes activities and events involving members of the community and the broader Blue Mountains community. Korowal School does not specifically recommend any of these activities, nor does it guarantee their quality or the qualifications of their sponsors.

Music Makers

Classes for young children and parents

Through rhythm, song, story, movement and games,

develop a joy in music for the everyday.

Small classes, friendly and fun, 30-40 mins, qualified and experienced teacher

Tuesdays 10.30 & 11.30 am- Mid Mountains
Call 4784 2337 or email jane@hrlearning.com.au

DEPTH PSYCHOLOGY

Hilary Black

The Studio, 1/110 Katoomba St Katoomba

Phone 1300 558 753

Katoomba Work Wear

Discounts for Korowal families
clothing, camping gear

Christine & Glen Davidson 4782 6611

174 Katoomba St, Katoomba

HorseWays Reconnect with Life!

/Harmony Horses/

The role of horses is evolving and the benefits of working with horses for healing are becoming more widely known. Associations like the Riding for Disabled have known this for years. Now growing beyond assisting these people, horses provide the most amazing experiences of healing I have ever witnessed.

Horses help us return to a calm centred state, providing a safe space to face our fears, move through our blocks of limiting beliefs and free our minds allowing flow of creative thought. They soothe the heart, and liberate the spirit, enable access to our expanding potential.

These sentient beings remind us how to slow down, reconnect with the natural rhythms of life and intuition (our inner guidance system), through the gentle interactive process of working in partnership with them, guiding us to uncover the great mysteries within our lives, bringing clarity, direction, peace of mind and great joy. Horses lead us along a path to a slower, calmer, more peaceful state of being, assisting us to move with the flow of change and be empowered by the experiences.

The Medicine Horses incite a powerful and uplifting process, calming the mind, opening the heart and touching us in a way beyond words.

/Harmony Horses/ is a program new to /HorseWays/, assisting with personal and spiritual growth, with the focus of us as spiritual beings having a human experience. Grounding and enlightening, working with horses remind us of who we really are beyond the roles of parents, children, students, teachers, employees, employers, bringing synchronicity of heart and mind - think with the heart and act with the mind.

I am here to provide access to these wonderful creatures for those who are ready. Combining the skills of life coaching, Reiki and animal communication, in a safe and confidential environment I work with the horses as a facilitator. The /horses/ are the ?guides, healers, teachers?.

So, are you ready for the? ride? of your life? Be inspired by these amazing creatures and explore your potential through the Way of The Horse.

No previous horse experience is necessary, as sessions are interactive on ground level. Suitable for all ages.

It brings me great joy to share the Harmony Horse Program with you.

Monica Morris

/HorseWays-Reconnect with Life/

/Member of Equine Guided Education Association of America. <http://www.egea.us/>

Tel: 4757.4661 or 0406205309.

Email: monica.morris@bigpond.com



The Little Da Vinci's

The Little Da Vinci's are a group of 10 neighbourhood children from 3 – 11 years who have been doing life drawing with local artist Ellan over the last 8 months.

The aim was to produce a body of work for each child in different media – inspired by reflections of nature. This encompasses photography, sculpture, drawing and painting.

The exhibition seeks to celebrate the limitless creativity of children, and to build their self esteem.

The Little Da Vinci's are Alaska, Ben, Bonnie, Bugs, Evie, Jaida, Jas, Shannon, Tara and Wendy. They have selected their own best works for display.

We hope this will be part of an ongoing project to restore the value of creativity in young lives.

The exhibition also features artworks from the Nepean Area Disability Organisation.

Entrance: Free

Opening Night – 5 to 7.30pm

October 31, 2008

Exhibition dates

November 1 & 2, 2008 – 10am to 3pm

Venue - Katoomba Civic Centre

Contact details:

ELLAN

Ph: 4782 3881

Mobile: 0432 979 228

The project is auspiced by the Katoomba/Leura Senior Citizens. Thanks to the Blue Mountains Council for their kind support.

Christmas all wrapped up!

As a special gift to Korowal parents and students, Solitary Photographic is offering a one hour natural-light photography shoot of your family for only \$175.

This price includes 50 images delivered to you in your choice of size and format on CD.

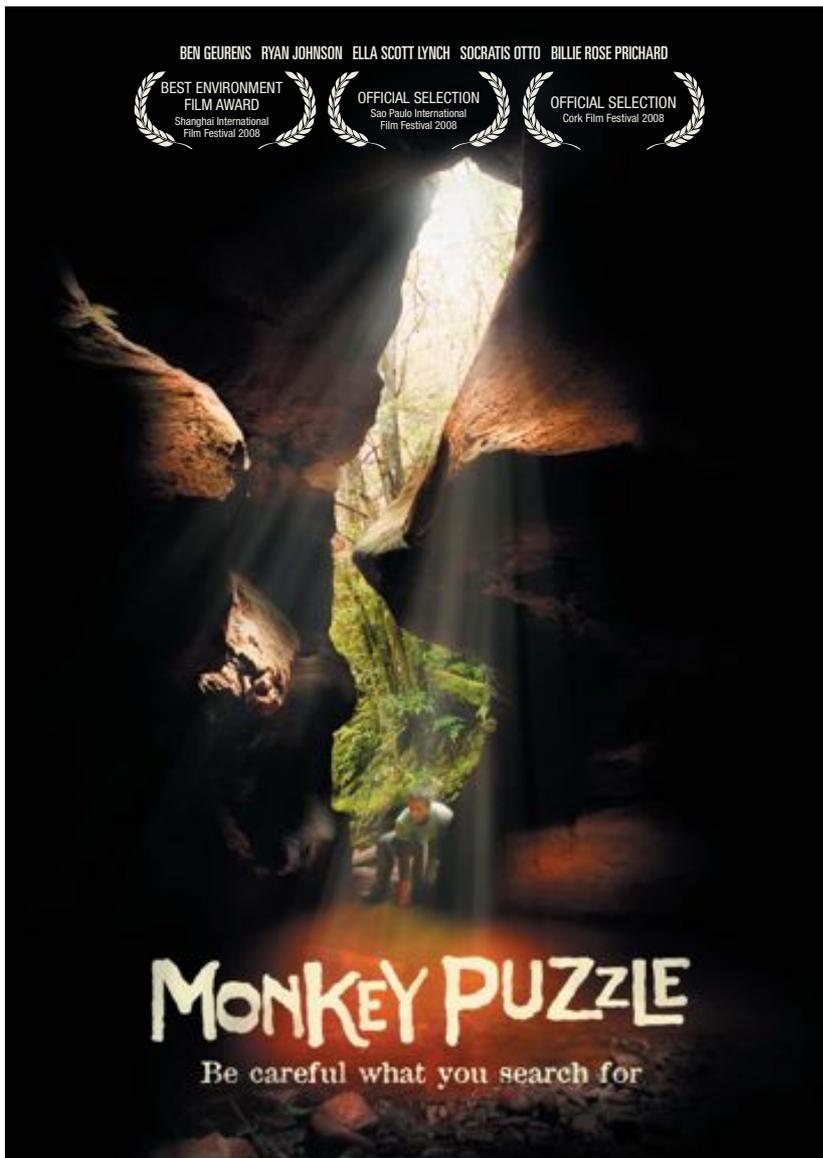
Also available as a DVD slideshow presentation.

A perfect gift for relatives and friends abroad or far away.

Printing can be arranged should you require.

Call Annabel on 0406 933 315 or email solitaryphotographic@gmail.com

Please book early as the calendar is now filling up fast as we get closer to Christmas!



After impressing film festival audiences around the world, **MONKEY PUZZLE** will be screening as a limited national release. Opening nights in Sydney, Melbourne & Katoomba (Wednesday 22nd October 2008) will be a special events not to be missed with Writer / Director Mark Forstmann in attendance for a Q&A session.

This feature film debut from Mark Forstmann is a beautiful and dramatic journey into the unforgiving landscape of the New South Wales' Blue Mountains, following five friends on the search for one of the world's rarest trees, the Wollemi Pine, often referred to as a 'Monkey Puzzle' tree.