

## **AND SO IT BEGINS**

The summer season at Sandy Point began in earnest on Saturday 29<sup>th</sup> December with the Community Groups' much anticipated Sandcastle Competition. There were a few anxious people when showers fell early on during the morning, but these certainly didn't deter the sandcastle builders who turned up in droves, buckets, spades and shovels ready for action.

When I arrived, everyone was busily working on their own unique designs shovelling sand, patting it into place and adding embellishments to make their effort stand out to the judges. According to those in charge there were the usual two hundred or so participants and everyone certainly seemed to be having a great time.

Of course, after all that effort, the planners and the diggers needed nourishment. This was supplied by the sausage sizzle set up at the beginning of the beach track, who by all accounts did a roaring trade but managed not to run out of sausages.

The next scheduled event was to be the Trivia Night on January 3<sup>rd</sup>. However, on Friday 4<sup>th</sup> January beginning at 7.30pm there was a film shown at the Centre. The film was called "Blue" and featured the ever-growing problem of climate change and how it affects the endangered species in our oceans. It was a very poignant film which deserved a bigger audience and certainly brought home the increasing need to tackle pollution in our oceans.

The Trivia Night was closely followed by the Foodies Market on the 5<sup>th</sup>, which this year was a twilight affair starting at 4pm. The next day Jacki will begin her Yoga on the Grass sessions at 8am and continuing at the same time each day until the 13<sup>th</sup> January.

Was the Trivia Night a success? Well, when people are begging for more because they don't want to go home just yet, I think you can say it was successful. The hall was packed with a total of nineteen tables squeezed in. There was absolutely no room for more. This included the desperate lady who offered to bring her own table and ten chairs if we could please fit her in! On the financial side it was also a winner with around one hundred and eighty people through the doors at roughly \$10 a head. Also, the heads and tails and the mystery auctions were very well supported so it all added up to a nice sum of \$1500 and gave many people so much fun as well.

Moving on to the Foodies Market and another very successful event. There were stalls both inside the hall and out on the grass as well as those needing power clustered around the entrance. People were everywhere, with long queues at many food vans and everyone doing a roaring trade. Although the weather looked a bit iffy at one stage, it soon cleared to a nice sunny afternoon with just a gentle breeze. Just perfect for the market and it wasn't long before the crowds rolled in.

At the end of the Foodies, the raffle was drawn, and the prizes went to the following people. First prize went to Megan Ball, second to Dot Devine and third to Donna

Henning. Congratulations to all the winners who will receive a phone call to notify them of their win.

From Your Snippet Collector – Sally Gibson

