

Our Community Fair turns 5!

by Michelle Sloane – APA President & Fair Coordinator

The sun shone brightly as Artarmon celebrated the 5th birthday of our Community Fair! Happy Birthday greetings were in abundance as the weather played host to a marvellous array of things to both entertain and inform. With the support of Willoughby City Council we received permission from the RTA to close a section of Hampden Road, providing us with more space and resulting in the opportunity to engage many more sponsors, making our 5th birthday our biggest and boldest Fair yet!

The many faces of Artarmon were in evidence: our incredibly supportive local business community; our heritage; our many hard-working community groups; and of course our wonderful Artarmon Public School. The teamwork exhibited on the day was phenomenal as so many people came together to make the day a tremendous success!

Rae Newell from the Aboriginal Cultural Centre welcomed everyone with an Acknowledgement to Country and Uncle Max and Wayne conducted our first Smoking Ceremony. The Artarmon Star Search Grand Final was another highlight with Zainab Grace Zia performing an amazing dance routine to become our 2008 winner. The runner-up was dancer Raena Ng. The four other finalists – Ghazal Adibmoradi, Audrey Jaramillo and Isabella Merhi all performed with great enthusiasm and promise! A huge thank you must go to Ross Dickson and the Youth Committee – Lauren Alison, Robert Newman, Natalie Court, Mel Travis and Genni Firth who put in weeks of work to bring us Star Search 2008.

Many thanks again to all who baked cakes and prepared jams and biscuits for Noah's Ark Toy Library; bought gifts from the P&C stalls; and enjoyed a cool drink from the Sea Scouts or a fabulous sausage from the Neighbourhood Watch Sausage Sizzle. So many community groups benefited from your attendance and support which is one of the main aims of our Fair - to create a fundraising opportunity for these hard-working groups.

We worked hard and had a great day!

The **Artarmon Public School** through sales at the P&C Mother's Day gift stall, second hand DVD, CD and book stall raised over \$4000.

The **Noah's Ark Toy Library Cake Stall** raised over \$2000. Susan Goring and the NATL Committee wish to extend their most sincere thanks to the Artarmon Community for the generosity shown in donating cakes, jams and other assorted tasty things to assist the fundraising on the day.

The **Neighbourhood Watch/APA Sausage Sizzle** sold nearly 1,000 sausages and raised approximately \$1400.

Artarmon Public School Music

Many thanks to Louise Green for her continuing support of the school's involvement with the Fair. As always the quality of the performances was outstanding starting with the Year 2 Choir followed by the Senior and Junior bands and Jazz Band. Listening to these performances one could only feel enormous pride in our local school.

Artarmon School Art Exhibition and Competition

The Art Competition showcased the talent of many of our local children. Prizes were awarded to children from each year as well as overall exhibition winners. This event was very generously supported by Oxford Art Supplies.

The Fair would not have been possible without the support and engagement of **OUR LOCAL BUSINESS HEROES**. This year we had a tremendous level of support from the local business community with a substantial increase in the number of new sponsors. Our sincere thanks to all those listed on page 9, including our new Local Business Heroes for 2008:



"The Harmony of Multi Culture" by Andre Chu Qiao Lo, 45, Artarmon Public School, 1st prize winner in the Fair Art Competition Years 3 & 4 division

Artarmon Welcome Mart
BabyBuds
BYON – Build Your Own Network
Kennards Hire
Michael Chetham Photography
Oxford Art Supplies
SVM Subaru
Tyres and More

Without our sponsors, this great community event would not be possible.

And finally, thanks to everyone who came along to enjoy all the many aspects of Artarmon at this annual celebration of our great community!