

2007 Chairman's Annual Report

It is my pleasure to present this report.

The past year has seen **considerable progress** and credit to all who have helped improve our campsite.

In late 2006 we became aware that the presentation of our **complex interior** had slipped below an acceptable standard. In March, a week of intensive work by Brenton Jolly and his employee Adrian Cowley plus many volunteers painted every internal wall and ceiling (except kitchen) using excellent and bold colours chosen by Carin Haldane. I take this opportunity to particularly acknowledge Brenton for his generous quote and excellent skill. Some bunk beds were altered and replaced and then 40 were painstakingly prepared and painted. Dormitories were enhanced with window blinds, mattress covers, mirrors and wall pictures. Both retreat room floors were painted and later skylight ventilation was added to one of them. Mattresses, new combination bunk, hall pin-up boards microwave and urn have been purchased to lift the complex back into place.

Meanwhile a new **21,000 gallon tank**, partly funded from a Commonwealth water grant, has been installed by Rob's Water Systems and the **storage shed** (Graham's shed) was at last cleaned and sorted with new shelves and a loft built.

A troublesome combined **21st** was held in April with ensuing damage – a reminder that Thuruna exists for reasons other than community high-risk events. Our new **Risk Camp Policy** should help avoid them in the future as Jeanette can call on others in the committee to assess new hirers.

Other facets of Thuruna continue at pace as Meg Shepherd achieved much to transform Thuruna's **website** to one that is impressive and user-friendly. Roles and responsibilities of each office holder has been completed and we are looking for a **volunteer handyman** to assist Robert in preventing Thuruna from leaking, breaking down or falling over.

Hamilton Cottage continues to be an asset at Thuruna. We praise God that after just four years our treasurer was able to make the **final loan repayment** to Synod. From an old school building at the rear of the complex, it is now a modern, attractive beach retreat, positioned ideally for families to relax and enjoy. Younger hirers will be impressed a TV/DVD was purchased during the year.

This year will be as busy as last year. A Synod gift fund of \$25,000, a Synod loan of up to \$60,000, various grant money plus some savings on hand will all help make the **complex kitchen upgrade** a reality. With the assistance of Ric Mansell and Jeff Eime, Robin Dixon-Thompson has led a steering committee to agree on an ambitious plan that will project Thuruna to a new level of catering. Starting in July we look forward to, as always, strong volunteer support and for the first time assistance from MMM, that is **Mission Mobile Maintenance**, a volunteer organisation. We also envisage a major upgrade of the area outside the kitchen to accommodate a barbecue and outdoor eating area.

As this is my last report as chairperson I wish to thank the hard working committee and all office holders, Graham, Jeanette, Robert, Sue and Janet, for their great support over 5 years and wish the new chairperson well. I commend Kevin Sheldon on his first year as committee member and welcome tonight any **new members**.