



BEST FRIENDS: Survivors of the Marysville bushfire tragedy and the organisers of their rest and relaxation holiday stood together for a group photograph in Marcs Park.

Marysville visitors say goodbye to Cassowary Coast

The 49 Marysville visitors who have enjoyed a week of fun and activities on the Cassowary Coast farewelled the organisers of their holiday at a barbecue breakfast at Marcs Park on Monday morning.

Visitor Mary Chapman said the holiday away from Marysville, devastated by bushfires earlier this year, was a trip that will always be remembered.

"This break has certainly done a lot of people a lot of good," Ms Chapman said.

"We even went skydiving which is something we would never have done.

"I think we did it because we were on such a high after going to the reef and we thought we should do something we had never done before."

Organiser Cherelle Skelly said the visitors will leave her with an empty feeling and that each of them has touched her life in some way.

"I am really pleased they are going back in good spirits and a sense of community yet again," Cherelle said.

It was evident at the emotionally charged farewell that new friendships have been forged and the already close knit group of survivors have entered an unbreakable bond with each other.

"This is the first time a number of the visitors have seen each other since February 7," Ms Skelly said.

"And the only other times some of them have seen each other was at funerals so this was a chance for them to catch up and have some fun away from their troubles in Marysville.

"And now I have so many new friends, we're going down to Marysville in November for a month to visit them."



MARYSVILLE BOYS: Jeremy Johnston, Abraham Johnstone and Luke Whittingham had a great time exploring the Cassowary Coast on their week long holiday.



BIG BREAKFAST: Hayley and Jannie Fiske enjoyed their Rotary breakfast before their journey home to Victoria.