

# Welcome to the Cassowary Coast

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**SPECIAL VISITORS:** The Marysville residents were welcomed by Mission Beach locals after their journey from Victoria.

Residents from Marysville are now enjoying a week of fun, tourist attractions and relaxation on the Cassowary Coast.

Marysville was devastated by the Victorian bushfires earlier this year and locals arranged a break for 49 of them.

The visitors arrived to a welcoming party of Mission Beach volunteers and organisers at Marcs Park Monday afternoon. Mayor Bill Shannon officially welcomed

them to the region and organiser Cherelle Skelly informed them of their exciting itinerary for the week ahead.

Co-organiser Sue Wickes said the fundraising process has been going since March and the final result is a tribute to Cherelle Skelly who had the vision to bring happiness to the victims of Marysville.

"Cherelle asked for assistance and everyone stepped forward to give her the help she needed

and the community should feel very proud of their generous nature," Ms Wickes said.

"It has been all about helping people and it is fulfilling to know we have helped them in some way."

Ms Skelly said she has become close to some of the Marysville people through phone contact over the past few months.

"The reaction of the visitors has been touching," she said.

"People have come up to me and said they are overwhelmed that the community cares so much.

"It has been wonderful getting to know them; some of them have been counting down the sleeps until this holiday.

"It is with the help of the businesses, volunteers, Mission Beach Visitors Centre, Mission Beach Business and Tourism and the school children this has happened for these special people, and they are all very special."

**CROC ALERT:** This three to four metre crocodile was photographed by Wongaling Beach resident Mary Schiess last Friday. The reptile was spotted between 50 and 300 metres from the beach between 8am and midday. The crocodile swam back and forth between Wongaling Creek and Wheatley Park and was last seen close to Dunk Island heading north.