

Cycling the continents for better education

> POLICE BRIEFS

By ELIZA ROGERS

TWO inspirational Aussies are helping kids receive quality education through their 33,000km cycle spanning four continents, documenting their experiences and raising funds for these children.

Jess Macaulay and Jules Cooper began their "long way home" journey in Argentina in November 2008, travelling through South America, Europe and Asia and arriving in Darwin a fortnight ago.

They stopped over in Katherine on March 9 after a memorable trip through Kakadu.

"The dreams you have of Australia - this is where they all start," Jules said of their trip through the Top End.

Jules and Jess have come across much generosity and hospitality and decided to raise funds for the Ardoch Youth Foundation, which makes education a reality through community collaboration.

Children the Foundation supports have been following the pair's journey on their blog, learning about Australia's history, geography and culture, personal health and ambition.

Jules and Jess hope to become a catalyst for a project for kids in the future.

The couple plans to visit Mataranka Station, and the Red Cross and schools in Tennant Creek.

They will then head across to Mt Isa, the Gulf of Carpentaria, down to Cairns then on the home stretch to Melbourne, with arrival set for July 3.

A highlight has been cycling in Paseo De Jama, South America, at a height of 4,800m, with not much oxygen and amazing scenery.

Another was the couple's very warm reception at the Australian International School in Singapore.

Jess said the trek has given them an opportunity to travel in a way different to the conventional tourist.

"Stopping every 100km, you really get a feel for the country," she said.

Jules said the ride appealed to their shared characteristics.

"We have similar personalities (where) if you lay down a challenge, it ends up getting done. (We did this) to see if we could," he said.

Last week, the pair had raised \$1,400 for the non-for-profit Ardoch Youth Foundation since arriving in Darwin and would appreciate more help.

To donate or find out more, visit www.julesandjess.com.



Ride on: Katherine marked 25,000km into Jess Macaulay and Jules Cooper's 33,000km global cycle, educating and raising funds for disadvantaged young people.

Katherine detectives continue to investigate the assault of a 41-year-old man that occurred near the Eastside shops in the early hours last Friday. Detective Sergeant Tony Henrys said they are following up a number of leads. "We are looking for any person who was in the area of the Eastside shops or high school between 11.30pm Thursday night through to 2am Friday morning who may have seen or heard any sort of a disturbance in the area," he said. The victim suffered a serious head injury and is undergoing treatment at Darwin Hospital.

On Monday afternoon police were called to a residence in Katherine East after a man had been seen committing an unlawful entry.

A neighbour, who was an off-duty police officer, chased the offender on foot for about a kilometre. She arrested the man on Acacia Drive and was then assisted by other police units.

The 19 year-old man allegedly stole a quantity of spirits from the residence and dropped the liquor as the foot chase commenced.

Senior Sergeant Steve Heyworth said the off-duty police officer Constable First Class Tanith Blair showed persistence in continuing the chase and making the arrest.

"She was off duty at the time and did not even have time to put on her shoes - we are all impressed with her actions in looking out for her neighbours," he said.

The man will appear in Katherine Court on the April 12.

Police arrest six in one night

KATHERINE Police arrested a 20-year-old man after he allegedly returned a blood alcohol content reading of .184 percent last Thursday night.

He was charged with high-range drink driving and driving whilst disqualified.

The man was one of six drink drivers arrested across the Territory on Thursday night.

A man was arrested in Santa Teresa and another in Yuendumu.

A woman was arrested in Moulden and two young men were arrested at the Humpty Doo tavern.

Watch Commander Daniel Shean said, "Driving whilst under the influence of alcohol is a significant contributing factor to road crashes and associated trauma. Of concern is the number of apprehended drivers that are not only driving whilst intoxicated but are repeat offenders driving while disqualified.

"This is a dangerous combination whereby, if it were not for the good work done by police in detecting the offences, their actions could have amounted to further road trauma".

Locals keep giving to trust

A LOCAL accommodation provider has handed over \$3,565 to the Meredith Family Trust.

The Paraway Motel raised the money by giving a \$5 donation from each room booked in February.

Manager Nathan Eames approached the owner, Max Oldfield with the idea and even they were surprised how much they raised.

Mr Eames said they had more than 700 rooms booked during the month which was double what they were expecting.

The donation follows on from other local donations including from the Katherine Club.

The money will go towards a trust set up by the NT Police



Katherine Police Superintendent Col Smith with Paraway Motel manager Nathan Eames.

Association which will look after the family of the late Brett Meredith who died after allegedly being hit in Club 23 on New Years Day.

He is survived by his wife and five children. The family will also be assisted by the Police Legacy.

"We try and contribute where we can," Mr Eames said.

Woman arrested after child hit

A 46-YEAR-OLD woman appeared in Katherine Court on March 11 in relation to an aggravated assault incident which occurred the previous day.

Police were called to a residence on Dowling Street in Katherine South at about 8.45pm after the offender allegedly attempted to assault

two women with an axe.

The woman is alleged to have had a brief argument with her partner before attempting to assault the women.

It is believed the woman swung the axe at a 35-year-old woman, missing her and striking a 3-year-old child to the head.

She was arrested and conveyed to the Katherine

Watch House.

The child was taken to Katherine Hospital and received treatment for a wound to her forehead before being released a short time later.

The offender was charged with three counts of aggravated assault and three counts of recklessly endanger serious harm.

Appeal for missing man

POLICE issued an appeal to the public to locate a missing person yesterday.

Anthony Drummond was last seen near Renner Springs on Sunday.

Staff at the Three Ways Roadhouse where he was working reported Drummond, 40, left unexpectedly on Friday.

Elliott police located the man's vehicle at Renner Springs on Sunday. His mobile phone was found in the car.

Police were also told that a truck driver reported seeing a man similar to the missing person walking along the Stuart Highway between Renner Springs and Elliott on Saturday morning.

Police have also recovered Mr Drummond's wallet and car keys which were handed in by a

passing motorist who found them by the side of the Stuart Highway 4.5 km north of Renner Springs.

The missing man's mother told police she last spoke to her son by phone on Wednesday when he told her he was heading to Katherine.

He is described as a Caucasian male with a tanned complexion, 179cm tall, 75kgs and of a medium build.

A photo of Mr Drummond has been released by police.

Police have launched an air and ground search for the man.

Anyone with information about the missing person is asked to call police on 131 444 or Crime Stoppers on 1800 333 000.

Man arrested after bashing

KATHERINE detectives have charged a 49-year-old man following an allegation of multiple assaults on the same victim in Walpiri Camp (Transit Camp) Katherine last Tuesday and Wednesday.

He was remanded in custody and appeared in court on Monday.

The man's partner, a 39-year-old woman, suffered serious facial injuries, spinal injuries and a broken leg and was airlifted to Royal Darwin Hospital.

She is currently still in hospital undergoing treatment.

Katherine Police said they believe the injuries were sustained after the woman was allegedly hit with a car jack and handle.

GUESS WHO?

HER life has spanned the Top End from North Queensland to the Kimberleys to Katherine, and she has made a big contribution to the town with her long-running jobs.

This woman worked at Woolworths for 11 years and sat as president of the Horse and Pony Club for 12.

Do you know who it is? Turn to page seven to find out.



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