



The Bowerbird January 2012

Collection of stories, news and anecdotes from O'Reilly's Rainforest Retreat, Mountain Villas and Lost World Spa

It was a Very Merry Festive Season for all at O'Reilly's!

On Christmas Eve, surrounded by guests and the O'Reilly family, our very own Alice from food and beverages, supported by Grace O'Reilly, led in the festive season by singing Christmas Carols in the library. (Please visit our facebook page to view more photos). She delighted audiences with songs of joy, merriment and jingle bells, where everybody joined in and the spirit of Christmas was brought alive at O'Reilly's!

On Christmas morning, guests woke up to a delicious BBQ Buffet Breakfast surrounded by Lamington National Park iconic birds, King Parrots and Crimson Rosellas, and everybody enjoyed a very special surprise visit from our mascot, the Regent Bowerbird.



On arrival for Christmas lunch, Shane O'Reilly and family greeted guests with welcoming drinks, followed by a hot and cold buffet lunch.

All the children were especially surprised to meet 'Scottish' Santa Claus on Christmas Day, with one particular young boy thrilled to be able to personally thank Santa for his new train set. All guests enjoyed a chat (and a beer) with Santa, and he generously gave presents to all the 'wee' ones.

Once the guests were fed, all the staff gathered around the dining room and enjoyed a well deserved and celebrated feast.



With a carvery dinner in the evening, Christmas day was a very indulgent and wonderful affair for all.

New Years Eve started with Jill from reception enchanting guests with her singing.

She managed to get all up and dancing at the New Years Eve BBQ at the Lost World Conference Centre.

She also sang an impromptu happy birthday to a guest who was celebrating his 30 birthday!

As the countdown to 2012 drew closer, guests gathered around O'Reilly's bar.

The New Year was rung in while watching the Sydney fireworks on the big screen, where toasts and resolutions for 2012 were declared!



Throughout the festive season, all the chefs, lead by our executive chef Keith Munt, served an array of delicious mouth-watering feasts that included prawns,

oysters, smoked salmon, a carvery meal with turkey, pork, Canungra smoked ham, a selection of salads and roast vegetables, Pavlovas and traditional Aussie BBQ buffets.



Are you ready for Wildlife Week?

Come and Explore Lamington National Park during O'Reilly's Wildlife Week from 15 - 21 January 2012

Just a fleeting reminder that Wildlife Week is fast approaching and selling out quickly! Escape, experience and connect with friends of O'Reilly's magnificent subtropical rainforest and discover the world of pademelons, bandicoots, echidnas, gliders, birds, reptiles and frogs while tracking, trapping and sneaking up on wildlife.

Leaders

- **Ian Gyntner** is a Senior Conservation Officer with the Threatened Species Branch of Queensland's Department of Environment and Resource Management (DERM).
- **Harry Hines** is one of our 'frogging gurus' and has been a leader at many of our previous Wildlife and Frog Weeks.
- **Melanie Venz** is a Zoologist working with the Biodiversity Sciences Unit within the Environmental Sciences Division of DERM.
- **Tim O'Reilly** third generation family member and experienced rainforest guide, will have the task of coordinating the program, logistics, buses, food, guests, leaders and animals!

Guest speakers

- **Steve Van Dyck** is the Senior Curator of Vertebrates at the Queensland Museum.
- **Dr. Chris Burwell** received his entomological training at the University of Queensland, where he graduated with Honours in 1988 and received the prestigious University Medal. He completed his PhD in 1995 and joined the Queensland Museum in the same year. He is now Senior Curator of insects at the museum, and also lectures at Griffith University in their School of Environment.

For enquiries or bookings, contact Reservations by phone on 1800 688 722, email reservations@oreillys.com.au or visit www.oreillys.com.au

Let the family Go Wild with O'Reilly's Families in the Forest Special January Deal

This is your chance to enjoy a family break with two nights' accommodation, hot & cold breakfast daily in the Retreat Dining Room, children up to 12 years can 'go wild' with participation in our 'Eco Ranger' children's activities program (up to 2 children) and country style morning and afternoon tea daily. This special family rate is only \$328 per person twin share.

Available Queensland school holidays only, program subject to availability and minimum numbers. Conditions apply.

For enquiries or bookings, contact Reservations by phone on 1800 688 722, email reservations@oreillys.com.au or visit www.oreillys.com.au

What a busy summer we are having exploring the rainforest with all our little Eco-ranger detectives!

Our school holiday program for kids is a great hit this summer. Based on environmental education concepts that incorporate learning about the rainforest with fun games, arts and crafts, with a focus on children's safety, children morph into 'Nature Detectives' and explore!

They also get creative with a selection of 'Bush Crafts', and stay active with a 'Rainforest Safari'. For all the kids over 8, they are enjoying the ultimate adventure activity ...the Flying Fox, where they are strapped into a harness linked to a pulley for a 180m flight through the air and across Morans Creek!

Fly in swiftly for Autumn Birding Week from 4 – 9 March, 2012.

Explore the rainforests, valleys and lagoons of the famous birding area on private guided tours hosted by our expert birding leaders. If you're smart, get in early and take advantage of one of our packages which include accommodation for five nights, morning and afternoon tea each day, breakfast and dinners for five days, 4WD bus excursions, long and short walks, bird counts and lectures, early morning excursions and spotlighting night life and audio visual presentations!

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Save the date for the biannual Vince Memorial Lecture



On Saturday 4 February 2012, Green Mountains Natural History Association (GMNHA) and the O'Reilly family invite you to join guest speaker Dr. Mike Olsen for their biannual Vince Memorial Lecture at 2.30pm followed by complimentary afternoon tea from 3.30pm

DATE: Saturday 4 February 2012

TIME: 2.30pm

PLACE: O'Reilly's Rainforest Retreat, Lamington national Park Road (Via Canungra)

RSVP: 07 554 4 0644 or reception@oreillys.com.au or visit www.oreillys.com.au
