

Green Screen eco showcase



OUR STORY: Saving Mary tells the story of our beautiful Mary River.

FOR the first time, Heart of Gold has a new Green Screen element featuring environmental shorts and run in conjunction with other two other international film festivals – CiinemAmbiente – Environmental Film Festival in Italy and Interfilm in Berlin.

CinemAmbiente has been presenting fine selections of environmental films in Italy since 1998 earning its status as the pioneer of green festivals.

Interfilm Berlin has combined with them to curate this program and Heart of Gold has added an Australian component. The program combines inventive, funny, enchanting, but also confronting films that highlight the state of our planet and human behaviour towards it.

Green Screen films cover a range of environmental issues, exploring themes that look at the need to conserve resources and preserve the environment both in Australia and around the world.

Think (UK) is an amusing educational piece about the necessity of plastic bags; Carpa Diem (Italy) ex-



FINE SELECTION: A Mongolian Couch is one of the feature films in the new Green Screen element at this week's Heart of Gold International Film Festival in Gympie. Contributed

plores why is it sometimes important to turn your little brothers tap off and A Mongolian Couch (Aust/Mongolia) is a unique story of energy and enterprise arising from a city of tower blocks and tents. Of particular interest is a locally produced documentary Saving Mary.

A story close to Gympie's heart - the people of the Mary Valley, The

Mary River and her natural wonders - is told in this Green Screen short film which has earned director Marc Bright Most Inspirational Documentary Award and People's Choice Documentary Award at Sunshine Coast University's Eco Flick Film Festival.

Festival Director Malcolm Blaylock said Heart of Gold welcomed the opportunity to work in conjunc-

tion with two other important international film festivals to support initiatives which brought awareness of environmental issues.

The 5th Annual Heart of Gold International Film Festival at the Gympie Civic Centre runs from Thursday until Saturday.

Tickets on sale from www.heartofgold.com.au.

Phone 5483 7000 or in person

Award winner screens at coming film festival

SHORT film Cockroach, directed by Luke Eve, was screened at the WOW Film Festival in Sydney on Thursday night, scooping two awards for editing and cinematography.

Cockroach stars actor Damon Gameau (Balibo, Underbelly, The Tracker) who was this year's Tropfest Winner with his film Animal Beatbox.

Damon was also a jury member at

last year's Heart of Gold International Film Festival.

Director Luke Eve, along with Cockroach's award winning editor Melanie Annan will both be in atten-

dance at this year's Heart of Gold International Film Festival.

Cockroach will be screened in Shorts 4 on Thursday at 4.30pm at the Gympie Civic Centre.

Elvis lives in a suburban attic

THE Heart of Gold Film Festival returns with the popular Comedy Shorts program, this year featuring an Australian gem Viva Las Possum directed by Marcus Hamil.

Viva Las Possum is a hilarious story about the discovery of Elvis in a suburban attic.

When a young couple are woken in the middle of the night to the sound of movement in their roof - they can only imagine they have a possum plague in their attic.

On investigation by the pest inspector - they find they have something far worse than a nocturnal pest ... Elvis!

The enthusiasm in making this film is described by its director as infectious.

"So many talented people came together with a single minded dedication to bring this wonderful script to life...as a director, Viva Las Possum was a dream job!"

Marcus Hamil will travel to Gympie for Heart of Gold and will partake in the Filmmakers Present session.

Don't miss this award winning Australian comedy which features



COMING SOON: Viva La Possum and a throng of 'Elvi'.

a cameo performance by over a dozen "Elvi" of various shapes and sizes.

Screening in Shorts 10 - Comedy

Shorts, Friday March 18 - 9pm, Gympie Civic Centre. This is a popular session and will sell out, so book your tickets now.

Awards: Best Live Action Film winner - Giggleshorts; Toronto Short Script - St Kilda Short Film Festival Winner, Audience choice award - Newtown Flicks

COMMUNITY DIARY

email

community@gympietimes.com

BREAST SCREEN

IF you are a woman 40 or over, you are eligible for free breast screening every two years. BreastScreen Queensland service is located at Cooloola Specialist and Diagnostic Centre, 74-76 Channon St, Gympie. No doctor's referral necessary. Some Saturday appointments. Early detection could save your life. Don't make excuses, make an appointment. Phone 13 20 50 for your free breast screen.

TODAY

Square dancing

UNTING Church Hall (small hall behind Surface Hill Church), 3.15pm-5pm every Tuesday. No partner or special clothes required, but low-heeled, comfortable shoes advisable. Square dancing is low-impact, exercise suitable for all ages. Cost \$3, beginners welcome. Inquiries Dawn 5482 2118

Weight Reduction Club

EVERY Tuesday, 6pm, lower level of the Gympie Community Place, Cnr Lawrence and Myall Sts (entrance at lower level opposite Gympie Central State School). New members welcome. With the friendship and support of other club members, achieve your goal of a healthy lifestyle and ideal weight. Inquiries Eva McCombe 5483 9964 or 0448 839 010.

Gold City Probus

CHANGEOVER meeting, Uniting Church Hall at 9.30 for 10am meeting. Guest speaker will be Paul Upshall will speak on driver education. Lunch at the Railway Hotel. Inquiries Linda or Jerry Osmond 5483 6998.

U3A Tuesday classes

□ 10am-noon Creative Writing (1st and 3rd Tuesdays). Contact Caroline Barry 5483 3849

□ 10am-noon Memoir Writing (2nd and 4th Tuesdays). Contact Janice Flaubert 0428 418 197

□ 1.30-2.30pm Beginner French, Contact Jean Piron 5486 7096.

□ 1.30-3.30 U3A Choir (2nd and 4th Tuesdays). Contact Joyce Dunster 5483 3556.

Alcoholics Anonymous

TUESDAYS Salvation Army Complex, Stumm Road, Southside 9.30am. Contact 5483 6404. And Vietnam Vets Hall, Nautilus Dr, Cooloola Cove, 7pm. Contact 0419 788 064.

TOMORROW

Gem Club workshops

EVERY Wednesday at Gympie Gem Club, 9am to 3pm. Learn a new hobby. No experience necessary. Make your own silver jewellery. Cut and polish stones. Faceting gem stones, silvercasting. Cnr Bruce Highway and Monkland St. Inquiries 5484 0080 or 5482 4680.

Wolvi Hall Zumba

EVERY Wednesday, 6.30-7.30pm. Ladies, children and even gents welcome. Cost \$12. Qualified instructors come out from Gympie. Inquiries Louise 0418 141 242.

50s and over

MEETS for fun and friendship on Wednesdays at the Senior Citizens Centre from 11am to 3pm. Cards, indoor bowls, Scrabble and much more. Inquiries Olive 5482 3146.

U3A Wednesday classes

□ 9am-noon Advanced French. Contact Helen Rawlins 5483 3505.

□ 9-11am: Book Club (2nd Wednesday). Contact Jill Jones 5482 4518.

□ 12.50-2.30pm: Italian. Contact Maureen Botterill 5483 7059.