

Students make a point



Dance students celebrate The Commonwealth Society of Teachers of Dance's 75th anniversary.

DANCE students twirled, pirouetted and tapped their way through The Commonwealth Society of Teachers of Dance 75th anniversary celebrations at Tamborine Mountain.

More than 180 students and teachers celebrated the occasion with a series of dance workshops and activities at Thunderbird Park's Cedar Creek Lodges.

Dance examiner Diahann Maude said the event was an affair to remember.

"The children had a wonderful time," she said.

"We had teachers from Western Australia, South Australia, Victoria and Queensland.

"They've had lessons in all types of dance."

Reunion in jungle for construction workers



Andrew McDonald (centre) met up with his leading hands Lincoln Haycroft (left) and Greyson Hamilton-Smith in the Malaysian jungle.

WHEN Scenic Rim construction boss Andrew McDonald needs to talk to his leading hands Lincoln Haycroft and Greyson Hamilton-Smith, he normally just walks out of his site office.

But last week was a bit different. Mr McDonald flew 8000 kilometres from his Lamington home to meet up with Lincoln and Greyson in the jungles of southern Malaysia.

Andrew's trip was all part of the Army's Operation Bosslift.

Twenty bosses, mostly from south-east Queensland, were flown out to meet their employees while they were on a three-month overseas deployment with the Army Reserve.

But being a reserve soldier is no new thing for Mr McDonald either. He is an Army Reserve himself in the Queensland University Regiment and is just about to go on a promotion course to officer.

"Being able to employ other reserves means my business is getting run efficiently," he said.

"They exercise responsibility and follow instructions. It's very similar to what they do in the army.

"In fact if I ever meet a Digger and can't offer him work myself, I pass him on to other companies because I know they are good workers.

"They are able to achieve the intent without needing to be told all the detail.

"It was certainly good to catch up with the lads.

"Not only do we work together in construction and wear the same uniform in the reserves, but we are also involved in the same charity work, the SPED Foundation, which tries to prevent psychological diseases.

"For example we take Aboriginal people at risk out into the bush to give them a boost - and our army

training is useful there too.

"When I met up with Lincoln and Greyson they were on a jungle survival course - serious stuff.

"They each had a knife and some water and had to survive for three days. But they had been taught how to make traps and which jungle vines were full of water.

"A trip to the bush back here will be nothing after that."

Both reserves will be back in Australia early in February but will have done things that few back home get the chance to have.

Of the 100,000 people now in Australian uniform, some 45,000 are in the reserves.

All reserves are volunteers and have to volunteer again to serve overseas.

In Australia they can get involved in security at major events like the Commonwealth Games and take part in disaster relief operations.

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A career in defence



TWO local high school graduates have been selected to attend the Australian Defence Force Academy in Canberra.

Jimboomba's Mitchell Krause, (left) who graduated from Hills International College, and Beaudesert's Thomas Corlis, who attended Beaudesert State High School, will both study at the academy before embarking on careers in the Defence Force.

Mitchell has joined the Air Force while Thomas is now a member of the Navy.

ADFA is a partnership between the Australian Defence Force (ADF) and the University of New South Wales (UNSW) which provides training and education for future leaders of the Navy, Army and Air Force.