

February March 2008 – NT News Article:

SHOW-and-tell time can be a mixed bag of dead frogs and pet stories, but Haasts Bluff School students are clammering for more details of a recent adventure.

Five classmates have just returned from a trip to Sydney, where they saw the surf, the Swans (of the AFL kind) and the Sydney Opera House - all for the very first time.

They bring back tales to a community 260km west of Alice Springs of water covering spaces as wide as the desert country, of bridges as high as mountains, of uncountable crowds of people in all directions.

More than that, they bring back new technological skills from the photography workshop organised by well-known landscape photographer Ken Duncan. Mr Duncan, who started the workshops six years ago, says the workshops aimed to show kids how they could turn their talents into future employment opportunities.

“We needed to show them how people make money out of photography,” he said.

Haasts Bluff principal Faye Cameron said there had been a noticeable change in the kids since their return.

“They’ve come back very confident,” she said. “They’re walking around thinking they’re a little bit up there in the world.”

Katie Marshall, nine, Tania Pareroultja and Ann Marie Impu, both 10, loved the zoo - the big cats were a big winner, and so were the cheeky monkeys.

“The monkeys were funny - they went silly,” said Katie. “We also went in a boat and helicopter. “It was good.”

For nine-year-olds Christopher Marshall and Bentley Michael it was the lure of water as wide as the sky that they liked the best.

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