



Rudy, Joylene & Emma helping to prepare the food

Mocktail Karaoke Night

16 January 2010

Over thirty participants, family and friends joined in the fun and song at our Mocktail Karaoke evening in mid January. Thank you to everyone who helped make it a great night.

We began the evening at 5 o'clock having set up the day before with streamers and balloons, emptied out the boardroom and prepared some light snacks. It was Saturday and we were expecting an entourage of 30 people. Would the drinks last the night? Would anyone sing? Where was everyone? And slowly people began to trickle in. Participants and family members ... some donned a party hat ... it was time to get into it!

There was a lucky door prize, prizes for best male and female singer and lucky dips for the children. Congratulations to the winners—in particular, Hubert and Monique who won the best male and female singer awards.

The Mocktail Menu (non-alcoholic cocktail) was a smorgasbord of at least ten different drinks—Vienna Soother, Pilgrims Punch and Berry Patch to name a few.

It seemed like just about everyone of the 39 attendees had a go at the Karaoke—thanks to the assistance of Temo, the Karaoke Master and DJ for the evening. It was an absolute blast with some people making moves to the songs and all in a very friendly and casual atmosphere.

It was great to see a child also enjoying the night and for families of MHACA participants to be involved. It truly was a family-friendly event with everyone feeling the hype of the music ... and the personal touch everyone put into their songs was quite unique. Naturally some people were surprisingly excellent at Karaoke, and cheering and clapping was the crowd's response for all singers; the audience was very receptive.

Mocktail karaoke is vowed to return...

On the same night, Emma Sleath from ABC Radio came and interviewed some of the participants that had been involved in arranging the evening, plus a staff member. She asked things like: What was the evening all about? How did people come to attend MHACA? And what has the MHACA D2DL Program got to offer? Emma also sang a song with one of the Participant Reps and enjoyed a mocktail. Thanks to the ABC for attending our mocktail and having fun with us.

A snippet of Emma's interview is on the ABC-Alice Springs website - visit www.abc.net.au/local/audio/2010/01/21/2797956.htm?site=alicesprings



Sue admiring the tasty array of finger food



Brian, Lynne, Barry and Jenny soireeing on the sidelines ready for a fun night



Left: Hubert taking home the prize for best male singer on the night
Above: Taking in the karaoke action from the sidelines



Hubert and Jenny Hartung enjoying the evening



Emma from ABC Radio enjoying a mocktail after an interview with Gwynn



Monique lighting up the room with song —and winning prize for the best female singer



Hubert putting in a winning performance



DJ Temo & best male singer on the night, Hubert, having a well-earned toast



Gwynn getting ready to sing a tune



A fine feast was prepared by some kind helpers



DJ Temo and Sacha double up for a duet