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Mum's love

By **GEORGIA OSLAND**

A BIRMINGHAM Gardens mother-son duo have done their bit to support Thornton's Hunter Aspect School for children with autism.

Sheree Middleton participated in the school's fund-raising event The Stampede at Sydney's Glenworth Valley on Saturday with her 13-year-old son Chase cheering her on from the sidelines.

Ms Middleton, whose son attends Hunter Aspect's satellite school based at Waratah West Public School, participated alongside dozens of other parents and teachers as

part of Team Aspect.

The team set a fund-raising goal of \$8000 to buy much-needed classroom resources for the school.

Ms Middleton and her teammates endured a challenging course, which featured mud pits, rock climbing and an ice bath followed by a hit of 10,000 volts. Ms Middleton said it was all worth it to support the school that has been invaluable to her son, who has Aspergers Syndrome.

"I personally cannot thank Aspect enough for the wonderful work they have done with my son," she said.

"Chase started a very upset and frustrated child



BONDING: Sheree Middleton and her son Chase, 13.

aged 8 and will be leaving a confident, well-spoken young man."

Team Aspect raised more than \$3000 for the school but it fell short of the team's goal. It's not too late to donate. Go to thestampede2014-sydney.gofundraise.com.au/page/AspectHunterSchool.

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Lots on offer at open day

By **CHRystal BRAND**

GRAB your friends and family and head to Pelican this weekend for some fun and entertainment.

Marine Rescue Lake Macquarie will hold its annual open day this Sunday, October 26.

Pelican Park will be full

of market stalls and activities to keep the whole family entertained.

Emergency services will have displays and the marine rescue's Pelican base and Swansea Heads radio base will also be open to the public for tours.

Boat enthusiasts have the chance to win a Jet

Buzz ride on Lake Macquarie in the raffle.

The open day will start at 7am and finish at 2pm. Entry is free.

A free shuttle bus will run regularly from Pelican to Swansea Heads.

■ For more information visit marinerescuelake.com.au.

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