



FILM FEST ... Malcolm Turnbull and Daryl Hannah with local children at Mission Beach yesterday

Photo: ANTON WHITEHEAD

Hannah on a festive mission

HOLLYWOOD superstar and environmental campaigner Daryl Hannah joined Opposition front-bencher Malcolm Turnbull in Mission Beach last night to open the northern town's annual film festival.

The Mission Beach Film Festival kicked off at 8pm in spectacular style. There is a full program of 18 cinematic treats during the weekend.

Hannah, star of box-office hits *Splash*, *Steel Magnolias* and *Kill Bill*, has been taking part in a permaculture course on the Atherton Tablelands.

The festival was welcomed with a red-carpet launch last night and the first Australian screening of acclaimed Queensland-French film *The Tree*, set in rural Queensland.

The film was adapted from Brisbane writer Judy

Pascoe's debut novel *Our Father Who Art in a Tree* and received a standing ovation at the closing night of the Cannes Film Festival.

Hannah said she was delighted to be opening the event.

"At this critical moment in history, we are facing many crises; resource wars, mass extinctions, environmental disasters," she said.

"It is crucial we all share information and inspiration on ways to care for and live harmoniously with this planet, other species and each other.

"Festivals like Mission Beach Film Festival play an important role in this evolution, and I am so happy to be delivering the opening address."

— BROOKE BASKIN