FAMILY AFFAIR: Samantha, 11, Paul, Laura, 7, and Lynda Barry of the Ithaca Caloundra City Life Saving Club at Bulcock Beach. PHOTO: NICHOLAS FALCONER/162374

Ask the Barrys: A family that patrols together, stays together

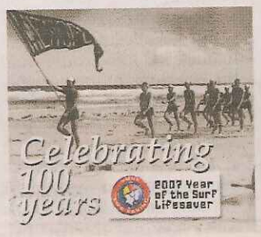
GOING to the beach is a family affair for the Barrys.

Each weekend they pile into the car and drive the hour-long trip from their Mango Hill home to Caloundra.

But there is no lazing around on the white sand or paddling serenely in the water for this foursome.

Instead, Lynda and Paul, along with children Samantha, 11, and Laura, 7, don their red-and-yellow gear.

The family are part of the volunteers who make up the Ithaca Caloundra City Life Saving Club, a branch of the



Royal Life Saving organisation.

Their link with the club stems from 25 years ago and the Barry's have no intention of letting their association fade.

They are so committed, in fact, the family spent Christmas and Boxing Day patrolling Bulcock Beach.

Mr Barry joined the club as a teenager, fresh after arriving from England.

"Paul came out to Australia and his sister became involved and he followed suit because she was going he had to go," Mrs Barry said.

"When we first started going out I was 19 and I joined, but had a bit of a break when I had the children."

The younger pair of the Barrys joined Ithaca five years ago when mum and dad decided to head the junior lifeguard program, which they still co-ordinate.

In addition, Mrs Barry is the deputy president while her husband is the treasurer – more than likely due to his job as a bank manager.

However, life behind a desk in business attire is a little different from weekends on the beach.

"Lifesaving is really good," Mr Barry said.

"Caloundra, even the whole Coast, is better than the Gold Coast and we don't get the stingers they do up north, so I'd say this is the jewel of Queensland."

Workers favour lies by email

OFFICE workers are most likely to tell the truth in face-to-face communication and with colleagues they are close to — and most tempted to lie by email, a British study revealed yesterday.

The level of truthfulness is heavily dependent on the means of communication, the study shows: most lies are told by email, then by phone, and finally in one-on-one contact.

"People think it is less moral to lie to those they feel close to, and may also fear that such people are more likely to detect any lies," Sandi Mann, who co-wrote the study at the University of Central Lancashire, said.

Overall, the research found that workers were untruthful in some way in up to a third of all interactions, with those described as psychologically "distant" found to be most likely to lie.

In 15% of all communications, respondents admitted to actually lying.

The most common forms of lying were the distortion of information, withholding information, providing deliberately ambiguous information or changing the subject in order to deceive.

Office managers could learn much from the research, its authors said. — AFP