



CHILDHOOD
CANCER SUPPORT

September
2014

Heart to Heart



A word from the GM

“What a busy month September was! CCS was proud to “Go for Gold” for Childhood Cancer Awareness month, a highlight of which was Talk Like a Pirate Day...”

“A hearrrrty thank you to all our pirates who came along on Friday 19 September and made Talk Like a Pirate a right ship-shape affair! Schools, childcare centres and businesses all over the country took part this year, making the event one of our best. Stay tuned for next year – which will be even bigger and better yet! I hope you enjoy reading this month’s newsletter edition.”

- Lisa Godier, General Manager

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Coming up...

October

14 Massages for Families

31 Halloween Party

November

4 Melbourne Cup Day

28 Friday Family BBQ

December

4 School Holidays

6 CCS Christmas Party

Ongoing

Wednesday: Coffee Cake & Chat every Wednesday



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TALK LIKE A PIRATE DAY

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Every year, Childhood Cancer Support holds its main fundraising event, Talk Like a Pirate Day – this year raising over \$10,000 to date...

Although we are still in the process of counting and collecting funds, CCS is stoked to report that more than \$10,000 has already been received from our Talk Like a Pirate Day fundraiser over the 19th of September weekend!

Talk Like a Pirate Day this year received over 130 formal registrations, while many of our CCS families enjoyed a CCS sponsored event day at Captain Burke Park, featuring a Clown and Magic show by Peebo and Dagwood; henna tattooing; face-painting; a sausage sizzle provided by our Master BBQers Lois and “Cookie”; and of course our Pirate Treasure Hunt!

It was a beautiful day to be outside and enjoying the sunshine, with not a cloud in the sky. Our henna tattooist, Charlotte Huston from “If only my name was Henna”, was busy all day, (temporarily) inking up our kids and family members, while our volunteer face-painter Beck spent the day turning girls into butterflies and pirates, and boys into spidermen.

Other highlights included the presence of the Real Pirates, who

Pirate face-painting was a success all day!



provided us with a very authentic, piratey atmosphere, and engaged in numerous mock swordfights! Our Creative Art for Wellbeing facilitator and Art Therapist, Tania Budd, sat with the kids creating portable “Deserted Islands” on a plate, and showcasing the awesome submarine made in our last session of the CAW program.

Attendees were kept cool in the hot sun by Doppios coffee van who made sure the snow cones and iced coffee never ran out, and hyped up on sugar thanks to the Clacher family who spent the day collecting funds for CCS and handing out popcorn bags and fairy floss. Fund a Dream also gave us a hand, supporting the event and handing out one large jar of lollies to the lucky Grant Hyndman family!





Over the weekend, we had #pirateselfies pouring in from all corners of the country, as well as a nice sum of donations. It was great to see so many getting into the spirit, including workplaces such as Moffat Beach Swim School, Lido Café & Restaurant, Mandurah Cruises, Matter Solutions, Jam Jar Café & Catering and many more. The team here at CCS has had a great time working with all our supporters – workplaces, schools and individuals alike – and we truly hope everyone enjoyed themselves.

Just as importantly, we could not have successfully put the day together without the generosity of our CCS volunteers; a special thankyou to Lois and Brian who put on their typical A+ standard sausage sizzle (though there were a few disappointed sighs at the lack of steaks), and to Andrea, Tegan and Lilly Bowkett who spent their Friday evening handing out mX newspapers with the mX team (who featured us in the Friday edition).

Another big shout out goes to Andy Graves from Essence of Time photography, who took some beautiful shots on the day, and the Clacher family who not only worked their butts off all day long, but provided their own equipment free of charge. We also want to take the time to acknowledge all the hard work

our staff and board members put in to make the day special and fun for our families. The day was a huge success, so well done team!

And last, but certainly not least, we say thankyou to our beautiful families and kids. You are an inspiration to everyone around you, and we truly hope you had a fun, enjoyable and relaxing day.

The CCS Talk Like a Pirate Day event saw a total of \$680 funds raised – an impressive effort for a one-day event! The money raised by our external supporters – both informal and formal – is still flooding in, so we'll have information about final figures up soon.

In the meantime, we're already looking at next year... after all, its Childhood Cancer Support's 40th birthday, so it's going to be big.



To check out Andy's work from *Essence of Time Photography*, go to www.essenceoftime.com.au



Jam Jar Generosity!

From the 25th August – 5th September, Jam Jar Café & Catering hosted a fundraising fortnight in support of Childhood Cancer Support...

Over the 14 days of their annual fundraiser, Jam Jar Café & Catering served up a delicious range of breakfast combo deals for \$15.00... \$5.00 of which donated straight into CCS' pocket!

Café owner Dawn Hargrave says her inspiration for this year's fundraising fortnight was Andrea Bowkett, a past CCS family member who lost her son to cancer.

"Andrea is a huge advocate of CCS," Dawn tells us. "She was the one who first introduced me to Childhood Cancer Support".

Dawn says that it was through helping Andrea that she decided to devote the fundraising fortnight to a charity of her choice... unsurprisingly, Andrea chose CCS.

"I was more than happy with Andrea's choice," Dawn says, "because I wanted my contribution to directly have an impact. I wanted to work with a charity that was small enough to feel the benefit of a sum of two thousand dollars".

By the time Jam Jar's fundraiser had come to a close, Dawn and her stoic staff members had raised over \$1,900, just short of \$2K!

Throughout the two weeks, Jam Jar was employing honorary guest waiters and waitresses, who were donating all tips to the CCS cause. Dawn further sweetened the deal for her customers by holding a raffle competition.

"I can see the real benefit CCS provides families," Dawn explains. "I see it every time I do the catering, and I see it through the customers who come in from the paediatric department who tell us that they're already in the CCS system of being looked after."

But Jam Jar couldn't stop short at the fundraising fortnight; they also participated in Talk Like a Pirate Day fundraiser, dressing up in Pirate garb and lending their support by talking to customers about who we are and what we do.

Thankyou for everything Dawn!





CHILDHOOD
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**It's the spookiest month of the year, so CCS is getting its "scary" on!
Please join us on Friday the 31st of October for our annual Halloween Party at
Childhood Cancer Support!**

COST: Free!

WHERE: 11 Bramston Terrace, Herston

WHEN: Friday 31st October from 4pm (time TBC)

WHAT'S ON: BBQ dinner cook-up, Halloween Piñata, Pumpkin Carving, Best Dressed Awards, Monster Making, Lolly hunt... (watch out for boogie-men!), and much more!

**To RSVP, please visit our Facebook Event page and click
"attending" [here](#).**

For any questions or concerns, please contact CCS on 07 3252 4719 or email
info@ccs.org.au



In honour of Childhood Cancer Awareness month, CCS is bringing you some of the latest news surrounding research and information about childhood cancer.

Across the world, childhood cancer is the least funded type of cancer research. Why is this? One reason is because childhood cancer is rarely preventable; instead we rely on advanced medical technology, but – like the paradoxical situation it is – we need mass funding to get it. The news isn't all bad, though...

A New Treatment For Brain Tumours

Considering that brain tumours account for more deaths than any other childhood cancer, and are both difficult to operate on and provide treatment for, news surrounding any treatment methods is definitely good news.

According to the Kid's Cancer Project and the Westmead Children's Hospital, the Gene Therapy Trial is "a completely new way of treating childhood brain tumours" (2013). For the first time, researchers and scientists alike are finding the treatment to be successfully altering a child's bone marrow by providing them with an extra gene protecting them from the effects of chemotherapy.

In other words, the treatment means higher doses of chemotherapy can be administered, with far less debilitating impacts on their immune system. This in turn increases the likelihood that the chemotherapy will have success in removing the tumour. The clinical trial is now in its third year, and has been praised by some of the world's top experts in childhood cancer.

New Treatment That Forces Cancer Cells To Commit Suicide

Suicidal cancer cells... We like the sound of that. So do the oncologists at Pennsylvania State University and researchers from the Kid's Cancer Project (2013). Cancer researchers have recently discovered a molecule known as TIC10 in mice that can kick-start the body's own tumour-destroying systems (known as TRAIL proteins), triggering cell destruction in cancerous but not healthy tissue.

"TRAIL (the protein gene) is a part of our human immune system," say the researchers from Pennsylvania University. "All of us with functional immune systems use this molecule to keep tumours from forming or spreading, so boosting this will not be as toxic as chemotherapy".

In addition, TIC10 appears to activate the TRAIL gene not only in cancerous cells, but also healthy ones. In this case, healthy cells are also stimulated to increase the amount of TRAIL receptors on their cell surface. In turn, these receptors bind to the adjacent cancer cells and causing them to self-destroy.

While all this self-imploding sounds rather Hollywood, The Kid's Cancer Project explain that "the project, which aims to start clinical trials in 2015, is a ground-breaking discovery that will have implications for the treatment of all types of cancer, both in children and adults" (2013).

To find out more information about childhood cancer and current research, go to

<http://www.thekidscancerproject.org.au> or

<http://www.childcancerresearch.com.au>

WANTZ UPDATE...

Last month, Childhood Cancer Support and the WANTZ Committee got together to celebrate the large-scale funding project organised at the beginning of the year. The WANTZ Committee, established in 2003, manages itself with a simple purpose; to fundraise for a different charity each year, and purchase equipment the chosen charity has specified on its "WANTZ Wish List".

In 2014, the WANTZ Committee generously chose Childhood Cancer Support (CCS) as their charity. At the celebratory dinner, post fundraising, the committee proudly announced the whopping \$206,925 that would be donated to CCS. Considering that CCS relies on fundraising initiatives for more than 70% of its recurrent costs, this

charitable donation is an unbelievable generosity.

On behalf of our families, Childhood Cancer Support offers a heartfelt thankyou for such an incredible contribution. The team here at CCS has been blown away by the generosity of the WANTZ Committee, and is more excited than ever for what opportunities lie ahead.

If you want to find out more about the WANTZ Committee, visit the WANTZ Committee website at: www.wantzcommittee.com or check our their Facebook page www.facebook.com/WantzCommittee today.



Childhood
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BTP Development Services has partnered with Childhood Cancer Support...

...to help raise much needed funds!

This year, BTP will be assisted by the Chain Reaction Challenge Foundation to help raise money and awareness of the impact childhood cancer has on Australian families. If you'd like to get involved, all you need to do is:

- Submit a team of up to 6 riders to enjoy an afternoon and competitive racing on a safe 2km closed-road circuit
- Organise your transport to the site at Macarthur Avenue, Hamilton
- View the highlights from the 2013 event by [clicking here](#)

Please **register your interest** by contacting steven@harvestproperty.com.au. **Official race program and flyer coming soon.**





CHILDHOOD

CANCER SUPPORT

invites you to its
annual Christmas Party!

WHEN: Saturday 6th December, 10:00am

WHERE: Vic Lucas Park, Bulimba 4171

WHAT'S ON:

Joyrides along the river, courtesy of the Water Police

Fairy floss and popcorn

Christmas gifts

Lunch and snacks

A Clown and Magic Show presented by Peebo & Dagwood Clowns

Jumping Castle

And of course... a visit from Santa Claus himself!

**We'd love to see you there! To RSVP, please click
"attending" on our Facebook Event page [here](#).**

For more information, please contact 07 3252 4719 or email info@ccs.org.au



Free Photography Sessions For CCS Families!

Living in an unfamiliar city for an uncertain period of time, when your child's recently been diagnosed with cancer, is not an ideal situation for anyone. It can be hard to find a "home away from home", and building close support networks within your immediate vicinity can take time.

That's why CCS has teamed up with generous supporter Andy Graves from Essence of Time Photography, who has put together a photography program for both CCS families and non-families from regional areas who have children with cancer.

Professional photography can be beneficial in numerous ways, from allowing families to decorate their temporary lodgings with some beautiful family shots, to enjoying the therapeutic process of photography itself. Andy himself will be coming in to CCS to take relaxed, natural family photos as a free service to families once a month. This month, Andy will be visiting us on Wednesday the 8th of October from 3pm – 5pm (right after Coffee Cake and Chat!).

If you're interested in utilising Andy's services, please contact the CCS reception and secure a spot on 07 3252 4719 or email info@ccs.org.au.

To see more work by the **Essence of Time Photography**, go to www.essenceoftime.com.au



CCS Supporters "Running Around" to Raise Funds!

This year, CCS has received some impressive support across the Bridge to Brisbane, City to South and Gold Coast Marathon runs.

Supporters who ran in the Bridge to Brisbane event raised more than \$8,700, while fundraisers participating in City to South and the Gold Coast runs culminated an additional \$1,200. That's a total of almost \$10K!

On behalf of our families, Childhood Cancer Support sends a massive thankyou to everyone who raised money throughout these events. We sincerely hope you enjoyed the day, and mastered a few challenges of your own!



Meet the CCS Mackay Volunteer team!

While Childhood Cancer Support's accommodation site is based in Brisbane, CCS receives support from several regional "branches" across North East Queensland. The Mackay Raft Race and Pelican Push are the two main events held in Mackay each year to raise funds for CCS.

Additionally, the Mackay branch holds the 1kg Challenge at Outback Jacks in Mackay as part of the fundraising for Pelican Push & Raft Race. These events are co-ordinated and run by a group of dedicated CCS volunteers, **Bert Pulman, Casey Lindsay and Tracy Single**, who have raised over a massive \$130,500 since 2007.

Each team who enters the Raft Race races their raft down the beautiful Pioneer River which runs through Mackay, with

crowds along the riverbank cheering them on (and throwing tomatoes).

4 permanent rafts were generously donated by Singles Transport and in 2013 they were sailed under the names of previous CCS kids from the Mackay area - Tommy, Darcy, Logan & Reef, with family & friends on-board. Businesses and supporters in the Mackay area also enter their own rafts and there is some very imaginative designs racing down that river each year. Each team raises their own funds for CCS.

The Pelican Push sees brave locals (some of whom are in fancy dress) run along a scaffold platform and launch themselves in the Pioneer River - the winner being the one who 'flew the furthest'.

Bert Pulman became involved with CCS during his stay in 2010, while Casey Lindsay and her family

stayed with us when her son Logan was diagnosed. Tracy Single visited CCS several years ago after a relative had been diagnosed with cancer, and since then, she and her husband Luke have assisted greatly in organising and fundraising for the Raft Race, Pelican Push and 1kg Challenge.

We cannot thank Bert, Casey, Tracy and Luke enough for all they do for CCS - we love you guys! If you're from Mackay or live within the surrounding area, and would like to get involved, please contact Bert Pulman on 0428 540 843.



CCS offers a warm welcome to our newly elected Board Member and CCS Ambassador, Josie Thomson...

Josie combines fifteen years of corporate experience with over a decade of coaching and consulting to corporate executives, entrepreneurs, business owners and community leaders. She has held senior positions at BHP and is a multi-award winning coach, speaker, trainer, mentor, single mother and two-time cancer survivor.

Over the last 12 months, Josie has proven herself a dedicated and generous supporter of CCS,

taking every opportunity to fundraise and spread good news about who we are and what we do.

Alongside being a proud Ambassador for Childhood Cancer Support, Josie has just been awarded the Gold Stevie Award for Maverick of the Year (Difference Maker) for 2014. We look forward to working with you more over the years to come, Josie!



Fund a Dream teams up with Estate Agent Stars

Fund a Dream's client Estate Agent Stars has recently offered its support to Childhood Cancer Support over the coming months, marking an exciting partnership to help generate funds for CCS.

Collectively Jean and Jacqui have been working in the Brisbane real estate industry for over a decade, specialising in the Centenary Suburbs. Their detailed knowledge of prime residential properties, in addition to their focus on reliable and efficient communication with clients at all times, makes it a pleasure to deal with them towards a successful outcome.

Jean and Jacqui pride themselves in their strong relationships with clients, built on trust, service and eagerness to go the extra mile. Past and present clients recommend Jean and Jacqui's energy, dedication and highly professional manner.



Special announcement from **The Children's Health Queensland Hospital and Health Service**

The Children's Health Queensland Hospital and Health Service is the state-wide team responsible for leading the improvement of Queensland Health's health care for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people, hosted at Children's Health Queensland.

One of their key mechanisms for change is a one day training program, the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Cultural Practice Program. Although it was developed for QH staff, it is just as relevant for volunteers. The program will be held regularly at RCH, and welcomes all CCS volunteers to participate.

The dates for the remainder of the year are:

**15 and 24 October,
12 and 21 November &
12 December.**

If any of volunteers would like to participate, please send email

*info@ccs.org.au or
contact 07 3252 4719 for
more information and to
secure yourself a spot.*





CHILDHOOD

C A N C E R S U P P O R T

Childhood Cancer Support is a not-for profit organisation that provides no-cost accommodation to families who have children diagnosed with cancer.

We give families a place to live that looks and feels like home; we'll drive them to and from appointments, shopping outings and the airport; we'll remove the financial stress of living away from home by sticking to a "no-cost" policy; we'll provide you with a community that cares, because we're all fighting the same battle together.

To find out more about CCS, make a donation or get involved in what we do, check out the following links.

**Make a
Donation**

Volunteer

**Contact
Us**

www.ccs.org.au