



Childhood Cancer Supports'

Heart to Heart

Monthly Newsletter

2015 | FEBRUARY ISSUE

TEGAN'S BUCKETLIST

An inspiring story about and inspiring young girl.
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OUR GROUNDS GET GLAMMED!

Thankyou to the Brisbane City Flight Centre crew for all their hard work!
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SCOTT'S MEMORIAL RIDE

A fun day of fundraising and remembering a very special young man who left us too soon.
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CALLING ON CCS SUPPORTERS

Transport to the new LCCH is crucial to our families, and we need your help!
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COMING UP...

March

- 2 Mackay Visit
- 17 St Patrick's Day
- 20 Open Day
- 27 Friday Family BBQ

April

- 3 Good Friday
- 5 Easter Sunday
- 6 Easter Monday
- 10 –
- 12 Camp Crystal

Ongoing

Wednesday: Coffee Cake & Chat



CHILDHOOD
CANCER SUPPORT

A word from the GM...

"Our thoughts have been with all our regional CCS families in the wake of Cyclone Marcia. We hope everyone managed to stay safe during the amazing display of Mother Nature's force. Let us know how you fared through our Facebook page.

The whole team is back in the swing of things and high on our agenda is the planning of our 40th year celebrations. An important part of 2015 will be celebrating the achievements of our families now and over the past 40 years – your triumphs, hardships and successes will help us to highlight the real story behind what it means to deal with childhood cancer. So, tell us your stories. Send us your photos. Share us on Facebook. Invite your friends to become CCS supporters. Send us suggestions on how we can improve our services, or give us a pat on the back for the things we do well. We want to hear from you!

Throughout the year CCS will be sending representatives to regional areas of Queensland, to touch base with our supporters and say thank you for all the hard work that our regional volunteers do year in, year out for CCS. First cab off the rank will be Mackay on 2 & 3 March. We're looking forward to catching up with all our tireless volunteers, sponsors and families in the area. We hope to be in other areas during the year and we're looking forward to catching up with familiar faces and meeting some new ones too.

Lastly, I'd like to take this opportunity to say a big thankyou to a number of dedicated CCS supporters who have fundraised for us this month. To Team Tegan Inc. and Chemo Can't Keep Scott Down – it is humbling to see that even though you have both lost so much, you give more than most, without hesitation. It is truly inspiring.

Till next month, take care."

Lisa Godier,
General Manager





Tegan's Bucket List

While Childhood Cancer Support sees more families heading home after successful treatments, there are always a handful who do not.

The Whittle family from Alstonville, northern NSW, were unfortunately one such family.

Tegan Whittle was 15 years old when she was first diagnosed with Osteosarcoma. The Whittles arrived at Childhood Cancer Support in July, 2014, feeling shaken but optimistic that all would come good.

Within weeks, Tegan had made herself known across the board as a kind, positive and likeable young lady with a very well-rounded sense of humour. She and her family had, like all others who have stayed with us at Childhood Cancer Support, become a cherished part of our community.

Unfortunately, however, the new year brought with it some difficult news; Tegan's cancer was not responding to her treatment. It was, in many ways, unsurprising to watch as Tegan accepted this reality with incredible strength and bravery.

Even more humbling was Tegan's final wish; to throw a Fundraising Ball, dedicated to raising money for her three chosen childhood cancer foundations, and to enjoy the glitz and glamour that she had every right to experience. Childhood Cancer



TEAM Tegan inc

Support was one such humbled organisation chosen for Tegan's fundraiser.

Tragically, Tegan lost her battle with cancer on the 8th February this month, just 20 days before the celebration.

It was a sad reality for everyone who attended the Ball on the 28th February, not to have Tegan there with us. That said, we feel that we speak for many attendees in saying that Tegan's presence was felt throughout the night.

Thanks to the courageousness of her family and friends, the

Tiaras and Tuxedos Ball was a huge success. Tickets sold out within mere weeks, and a wonderful time was had ball all who attended.

Childhood Cancer Support would like to offer its heartfelt thanks to the Whittle family and Team Tegan Inc. who organised the Ball and fundraiser. Tegan touched the lives of CCS families, staff and Board members alike.

Thankyou also, to everyone who attended, donated, and helped us celebrate Tegan's far-too-short, but incredibly impacting life.

To find out more about Team Tegan and make a donation to one of her three chosen cancer charities, visit www.teamtegan.com.au

A memorial ride for a memorable young man, and funds raised for Childhood Cancer Support.



Scott Doyle came to stay at Childhood Cancer Support in 2013, not long after being diagnosed osteosarcoma (bone cancer). In the 14 months that Scott lived at CCS, he and his mother (Andrea), and two sisters Lily and Tegan, became much loved members of the CCS family.

Less than 18 months later, however, Scott tragically passed away. This February marked Scott's would-be 16th birthday – an opportunity that was celebrated nonetheless, and in such a style that Scott would have loved!

"It was another awesome event", says Andrea. "The weather obviously kept attendance down, but the Scott Doyle memorial ride was definitely a success. A great time was had by all, and an awesome feed was put on by Texas wild wings at Springwood."



The event had 2 groups heading to Toowoomba - one from Dalby, and the other from Goodna.

"Thanks to all who came and donated, who bought raffle tickets, and to the management and staff at TWW," says Andrea. "We couldn't have done it without you!"

Andrea and her friends and family raised just over \$800 for Childhood Cancer Support throughout the day – an amazing effort!



Special thanks to Andrea for her persistent efforts in supporting CCS. We are always humbled to see the inspiring strength and generosity that stems from those who have lost so much.

Rest in Peace, Scott Doyle. You will always be in our thoughts.

Childhood Cancer Support gets its grounds glammed up!

As part of their workplace volunteering, the Flight Centre team from the Brisbane City branch popped in to lend a helping hand...

The enthusiastic team were put to work tidying up our site grounds, and giving our CCS vans a good shining! Support Accountant Devin and her team got stuck into their jobs, and didn't hesitate in getting to know the families staying with us and enjoying a laugh.

"I first heard of CCS through Good Company when I was planning our volunteer day. However, most of my fellow team members had previously heard of CCS as they were involved in the 'Glam up the Grounds' volunteer project the year prior," Devin says. "We all had a fantastic time, as did my team members. It was both fun and rewarding."

Devin explained that when Good Company contacted her and the Flight Centre team again in January, not a single person hesitated.

"Everyone was so lovely and we could really tell that everyone working there just wanted to help people", she said. "What stood out most was the family vibe and the fact that everyone seemed happy and wanting to have laugh and have fun. We all really loved that".

"We would definitely do it all again".

The Childhood Cancer Support team sends a huge thank you to the whole Flight Centre crew for their fantastic work, and for bringing such a positive and warm vibe with them.



THROUGH THE STREETS OF YOUR TOWN

WE NEED YOUR HELP.

**NO CHILD DESERVES TO
MISS THE BUS.**



Childhood

CANCER SUPPORT

For 40 years Childhood Cancer Support, based in Herston, has helped over 5,000 regional families while their child undergoes lifesaving cancer treatment.

Now we need your help.

The opening of the Lady Cilento Children's hospital means that all regional families staying in Brisbane during their child's treatment must now travel across town from Herston to Southbank, a distance of approximately 15kms round trip.

For many families this is a major and costly obstacle. Having a child diagnosed with cancer is heart wrenching and traumatic, not to mention expensive.

Taxis and public transport for children undergoing treatment are not options due to risk of infection and most families have no access to their own car. For those that do, parking fees at the new hospital are exorbitant and street parking is very limited.

Imagine having to pay for car parking, every day, for six months?

Despite Childhood Cancer Support advocating to Children's Health Queensland for a dedicated bus service to be provided for families and their children with cancer, no funding could be found. Families were told to catch a cab or hop on a bus...

That's when Childhood Cancer Support stepped in and established a free Monday to Friday transport service.

On Monday 1 December 2014, two days after the Lady Cilento Children's hospital opened its doors, Childhood Cancer Support began offering all oncology families a transport service from Herston to Southbank.

Since then, demand has grown by 40%, and our bus service has increased to six round trips each day. Not one person has been turned away. Sometimes two buses have been utilised in order to meet demand.

Unfortunately, Childhood Cancer Support is struggling to meet the growing needs of our families. We're now calling out to the support and generosity of the public, because **no child deserves to miss the bus.**

Your donation would ensure Childhood Cancer Support can:

- Purchase a larger bus to assist an ever-growing number of families
- Provide a greater number of hospital trips per day
- Ensure children in wheelchairs can access a free, reliable and safe form of transport to the hospital

READ MORE HERE, AND SHARE ON FACEBOOK: <http://ccs.org.au/no-one-deserves-to-miss-the-bus/>

HEALING HEARTS

Empowering hearts through creativity



Teen Visual Journaling

Thursday 26th March
Thursday 30th April

TEENS ONLY (age 12 – 17 years) - guys and girls are invited to join in a hands-on work shop offering you a taste of creative visual journaling!

Journaling is a fantastic non-verbal way of communicating in a fun and creative way, allowing you to express your own true feelings and thoughts however you see fit.

Our qualified art therapist Tania Budd will be facilitating these workshops, and guiding participants through cool, artistic journaling techniques.

Hang out with other participants and get connected with your creative and intuitive sides within a safe and non-judgmental space!

All participants will be supplied with their own new journal and pen set that they can take home.

WHERE:

Childhood Cancer Support Community Room
11 Bramston Tce, Herston.

WHEN:

Thursday 26th March, 1 – 4pm
Thursday 30th April, 1 – 4pm

If you'd like to join, please complete contact the Office on 07 3252 4719.



Childhood

CANCER SUPPORT



Want to make a real difference?

Become a Heartfelt Supporter for Childhood Cancer Support.

Heartfelt Supporters play a huge role in allowing Childhood Cancer Support to continue providing the facilities and services that families need. In the 2013-2014 annual year, our Heartfelt Supporters raised more than \$35,000, which has helped immensely in providing accommodation maintenance and improvements, implementing our Creative Art for Wellbeing program (art therapy), transport services and assisting campaign initiatives.

A Heartfelt Supporter of CCS agrees to make an ongoing monthly donation, starting a minimum amount of \$10. Your monthly donation will commence on the 1st each month and continue until further notice from you. All donations are tax deductible.

Sign up today at
<http://ccs.org.au/how-you-can-help/join-the-heartfelt-supports-club/>

Cancer never just affects the diagnosed. Carers and loved ones need support too.

Redkite offer extensive emotional support services to all oncology families throughout the entirety of their cancer journey. Redkite's services are available for children and young people (0-24 years) and those close to them with essential support, including:

- financial assistance to cover essential expenses, such as food, bills and fuel
- information, counselling and group support
- support to keep education and career goals on track
- support through grief and loss



Go to www.redkite.org.au to find out more today.

Star Struck!



This month, Childhood Cancer Support was delighted to provide a bit of 'celebrity interaction' for one of our lovely young ladies staying with us, Jesse Moore!

Earlier this month, Childhood Cancer Support played host to 2011 X-Factor winner, and singer-song writer Reece Mastin. Reece spent the day hanging out with Jesse, and by all accounts the pair got on like a house on fire by all accounts.

It was indeed Jesse's month, for less than 2 weeks later, Childhood Cancer Support received two donated One Direction tickets from the generous Crocker family from Townsville. With such short notice, it just so happened that Jesse was one of the few girls available – and so she and her mum got to spend their Wednesday night enjoying some 1D tunes!

We always enjoy hosting visitors here at Childhood Cancer Support, especially when they brighten the day for our families. Special thanks goes to the generous Reece Mastin for stopping by, as well as Viviana and Chloe for donating the One Direction tickets.

Good Nutrition for Mums & Bubs



Vanessa Carina Schoenherr is an accredited Practising Dietician with the Dietician Association of Australia, who runs a mobile, come-to-you service stretching all over Brisbane suburbs to help you keep up good nutrition and health.

Vanessa is going to be a guest speaker at Coffee Cake & Chat on 11th March, 2 – 3pm.

Find out more about Vanessa's services here:
www.goodnutritionformumsandbubs.com.au



*Good Nutrition for
Mums & Bubs*



CHILDHOOD

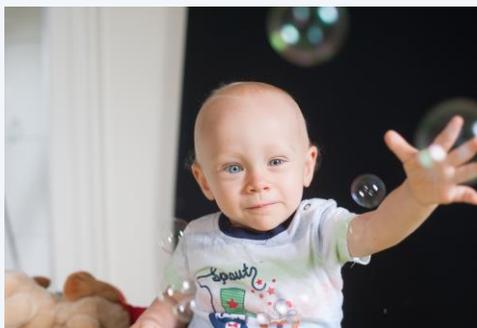
CANCER SUPPORT

www.ccs.org.au

ANDY GRAVES



ESSENCE OF TIME PHOTOGRAPHY FREE PHOTOSHOOTS



Living in an unfamiliar city for an uncertain period of time, when your child has 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 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 on Wednesday 25th March from 3 – 5pm (right after Coffee, Cake & Chat).

"Andy's photos are just amazing. Our son looks like he is talking to you through the picture and it makes you want to know more about him – it was by far the best photo-shoot we have ever had. Andy was so good with the boys. He made them feel very relaxed around him and was thus able to get brilliant results." – The McKinnons



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



Childhood

CANCER SUPPORT

When your child is diagnosed with cancer, everything else in life takes a backseat.

Childhood Cancer Support provides something that every family needs in a crisis – a home away from home for the whole family; a place where the whole family can be together during a very challenging time.

Childhood Cancer Support is one of a kind – a family focused charity offering regional families a place to call home while their child is undergoing life-saving treatment.

TO FIND OUT MORE ABOUT
CHILDHOOD CANCER SUPPORT, GO TO
WWW.CCS.ORG.AU

MAKE A DONATION
BECOME A VOLUNTEER